هكذا من الاصل



Slaughter tourism

Where is the sport in blasting to death a tame elephant? **Pages 12, 18**



Is hypnotism safe?

MPs demand law review, **p8**
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Snobbery and the lottery

Alan Yentob hits back at his viewer critics.
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20p

THE TIMES

No. 65,137 WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14 1994

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

Aircraft attack rebel Chechens, but Russians refuse to fire on civilians

Tanks halted by unarmed protesters



Anatol Lieven sees advancing Russian tanks being halted by Chechen civilians armed only with placards at Davydenko on the road to Grozny

THE main Russian army column advancing into Chechenia was stopped in its tracks yesterday by the appeals of a crowd of unarmed civilians and a Russian democratic politician.

Russian troops advancing towards Grozny, the capital of the rebel republic, in tanks and troop carriers had their way blocked by hundreds of Chechens waving placards. Their officers appeared to be confused and frightened by contradictory signals from Moscow and the prospect of large-scale civilian casualties.

At noon yesterday the demonstrators at Davydenko, 40 miles from Grozny, blocked the main road leading into Chechenia from Ingushetia to the west. They carried placards reading: "Russian soldiers, do not shed the blood of the people."

Behind them on the road to Grozny, Russian planes and helicopters were attacking Chechen military positions, killing at least eight people and slightly wounding Sean Ramsay, an American photographer for Reuters.

The column was part of a drive spearheaded by bombers and helicopters moving to seal off Grozny and prevent supplies of weapons reaching the rebels. Last night there were unconfirmed reports that some Russian units had reached the outskirts of the capital by skirting round the protesters.

Andrei Kozyrev, Russia's foreign minister, told reporters in Moscow: "If there is no disarmament in Chechenia, the Russian state will be obliged to use as much force as is required to establish order."

Talks in the North Ossetian capital of Vladikavkaz aimed at ending the deepening conflict appeared to be making little headway, and it seemed unlikely that Chechenia's claim to independence from Russia could be resolved without the presence of senior negotiators. Nevertheless, in the grey light of this windswept Caucasian plain, there was a flicker of hope that the Russians and Chechens might be able to resolve their differences without spilling more blood.

As armed Russian helicopters clattered overhead, a shifting mass of unarmed Chechens only a few hundred yards from the Russian tank column prevented what could have been a massacre.

An earlier Russian air attack at the Chechen post of Shaami-Yurt had left the roadside littered with wrecked cars and scraps of bloodstained clothing. Towards 1pm, the crowd at Davydenko saw the first Russian tanks approaching.

The paratroopers of Major General Ivan Babichev's command had spent 2½ days forcing their way across neighbouring Ingushetia through the resistance of local people.

Four hundred yards from the Chechen crowd, the Russian advance guard halted. A delegation of local Chechen officials went forward, and General Babichev told them that his orders were to move on Grozny. If they did not get their people off the road he would open fire, he said, even at the cost of a massacre.

But for three hours negotiations progressed, though against a background of helicopter gunships roaring overhead and artillery fire from the other northern Russian column distantly echoing from the hills.

By 4pm, General Babichev had agreed that he would advance no further that day and would not open fire as long as the Chechens did not attack his force; reversing his earlier stand.

"I cannot give you my word that there will be no advance, because I command only one part of the force," he said. "But I promise you that I have given orders to my men not to move. We do not want to drive over civilians."

The key player in changing General Babichev's mind during the talks was not the Chechen delegation, but Viktor Kurochkin, a deputy of the Federation Council, the upper house of the Russian parliament, from the liberal Democratic Russia party. He told General Babichev emphatically that "a week ago, the Federation Council voted that an order for a military advance into Chechenia would be illegal. Be warned: it is traitors who have given you these orders but you will be made to suffer for them. I order you to stay here until the Russian parliament reaches a new decision."

Outwardly unmoved, but with his will evidently shaken, the general then said that on his own authority he would order the column to halt and send Mr Kurochkin back along the endless line of tanks and trucks to talk to his superiors.

With that the second line of Russian advance into Chechenia again ground to a halt.

Leaders' fate, page 14



ARMANDO FRANCA/AP



An Aids patient kisses the Duchess of York at a hospital in Lisbon yesterday

Duchess tested twice for HIV

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE Duchess of York has disclosed that she has had two tests for the Aids virus, one before she was married to Prince Andrew and one since the couple separated.

The duchess, who is on a visit to Portugal to support a local Aids charity, told the Lisbon daily newspaper *Diario de Noticias* that she had the HIV tests as a precaution. She arrived in Lisbon on Monday for a three-day visit to support the Aids charity Abraco, fulfilling a promise to a Portuguese friend in London whose brother has Aids. She met President Soares and was guest of honour at a fund-raising dinner-dance.

After calling for greater openness about the disease, she was asked if she had ever been tested for HIV. The duchess, 35, was reported as saying: "Yes, of course. I underwent three tests, before getting married and before becoming pregnant."

A spokeswoman for the duchess said later that the reporter had misheard the reply. "She has had two tests, one before getting married and becoming pregnant and one recently, which was required for a life insurance policy." The decision to take the first test was a personal one and not required by Buckingham Palace before she married Prince Andrew, the spokeswoman said.

Asked about the impact of Aids on romantic relationships and the need to use condoms, she said: "We have to adapt to circumstances in life. I don't think this makes a difference. I am very practical. What has to be, has to be."

The duchess said she wanted nurses to be trained to treat Aids victims more humanely and she wanted hospitals to give the families of Aids patients more access to visit.

Hurd admits three more Pergau-style law breaches

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT funding for the Pergau Dam project in Malaysia will continue despite a High Court ruling that Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, acted unlawfully in authorising £234 million in aid, the Commons heard yesterday.

Mr Hurd said in a statement that he would not appeal against the ruling, but that funding would continue from money outside the overseas aid programme.

He also disclosed changes to the way three other overseas aid projects are being financed "to avoid any possible doubt".

For the Opposition, Joan Lestor, the shadow Overseas Development Minister, said that the Pergau loan was untenable, and called on Mr Hurd to resign.

The Foreign Secretary told MPs that the three other cases may have breached laws limiting the powers of ministers to give grant aid. In each case, ministers put political and commercial considerations ahead of economic arguments.

The three other cases were:

☐ A £22million donation to help build a Metro project in Ankara, Turkey. It was agreed in 1990, although the Government now accepts that "there was no economic case for the project".

☐ A £9.3million soft loan was made to the Indonesian government to help build a television studio at Bandung in 1986. Officials now accept that it may have breached the law because "political and commercial considerations were paramount in the decision to allocate aid".

☐ A £2.9million grant was approved to help set up a flight information region project in Botswana in 1988. Officials now say that there was no economic case for the project.

The cases came before Mr Hurd and John Major decided in 1991 to honour a promise made by Baroness Thatcher to pay £234 million towards the Pergau hydro-electric dam project.

Mr Hurd told the Commons that the court decision had forced a review of all projects which have received help from funds set up to provide aid to poorer countries in the hope of attracting trade orders.

It was now thought that the three earlier donations may fall outside laws which insist that aid must help the development of a country's economy.

He announced that remaining payments for the four projects would not be made from the £100 million aid and trade fund, and would be paid from reserve credit funds. This means an extra £65 million will be made available for overseas aid projects over the next two years, although no decisions have been made on where the money should go.

His admission that other projects might also have breached the law provoked criticism from Labour MPs, who claimed the Government had repeatedly refused to accept the advice of officials.

Mr Hurd was pressed to channel aid money into new projects. He said: "It is not self-evident that the Government should in consequence ask the taxpayer for additional money to allow the Overseas Development Administration to expand its aid activities."

Mr Hurd has been criticised by two Commons reports for overruling advice from Sir Tim Lankester, former permanent secretary at the Overseas Development Administration, that the Pargau funding was an abuse of the aid programme.

Matthew Parris..... 2
Peter Riddell..... 11

Caledonian sold in £16.6m deal

Caledonian Airways, one of three remaining independent charter airlines, has been taken over by the tour operator Inspirations in a £16.6 million deal. Though wholly owned by British Airways, Caledonian, which provided two million seats a year, was run totally independently..... Page 23

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Boothroyd bars Blair intruders

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TWO researchers who found their way into Tony Blair's Commons office were barred from Parliament yesterday for six weeks. Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, ordered the punishment, although she put the incident down to alcohol rather than malice.

Her explanation failed to satisfy some Labour MPs, who continued to say there was something more sinister in the discovery of the three intruders in the Labour leader's office on Friday evening. One was Andrew Hull, research assistant to David Atkinson, Tory MP for Bournemouth East. The others were a young American researcher, Nigel Snow, and Mr Hull's girlfriend, Amanda Hill.

Miss Boothroyd told the Commons that she had ordered the withdrawal of the two researchers' security passes until February 1. She was satisfied that no malice had been involved and that the incident had been caused by "excess of seasonal spirit".

Police officers who investigated were satisfied that nothing had been taken or disturbed. "Nevertheless," she said, "it must be understood that it is a privilege to work in and to have access to the Palace of Westminister."

Mr Atkinson said the Speaker's assessment that there had been no malice "was my conclusion when I was given the explanation". Pressed to say whether Mr Hull would be able to resume his researcher's post after February 1, Mr Atkinson replied: "That is a matter I have to consider."

Max Madden (Lab, Bradford W) called for tighter procedures for the issuing of parliamentary passes. "Virtually any Tom, Dick or Harry can be issued with a pass to this place," he said. Dale Campbell-Savours (Lab, Workington) asked: "Why was it they were not searched when they left the office?"

Referring to Mr Hull's claim that his group became lost in the winding corridors of Westminster after leaving a Lords bar and found themselves in Mr Blair's Commons office by mistake, Mr Camp-

Continued on page 2, col 5

Politics, page 11

£17m lottery winner protected

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN AND KATE ALDERSON

THE organisers of the National Lottery last night obtained a high court injunction to stop newspapers naming the family who won £17.8 million at the weekend.

As rumours spread that the winner was Asian and worked in a chemical factory in Blackburn, Camelot sought the injunction against Mirror Group Newspapers and News International.

Some tabloid newspapers are believed to have obtained details of the family after the father allegedly telephoned work on Monday to say that he was sick before taking his wife and three children to India.

Although *The Sun* and *The Daily Mirror* have withdrawn rewards of £10,000 and £5,000 respectively for information leading to the identity, they took scores of calls yesterday from people who thought they knew who he was.

Alan Coren, page 18
Media/Marketing, page 32

Gay Romanian granted asylum

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A FORMER Romanian soldier who is homosexual has been granted asylum in the United Kingdom in a landmark ruling that could trigger a flood of applications from gay men and women.

The unnamed man has qualified for asylum after convincing an immigration tribunal that he faced persecution and imprisonment if he was deported to Bucharest.

It is the first time that an immigration appeal tribunal has ruled that a gay man or woman could be classified as part of a distinct social group qualifying for asylum on the grounds of a "well founded fear of persecution".

The tribunal made its judgment after being told that the former soldier faced imprisonment under Romania's harsh anti-gay laws and that his male partner had already been interrogated and tortured. In the past few months the Bucharest parliament has debated whether the law should be amended to take a more enlightened view, but the move was defeated.

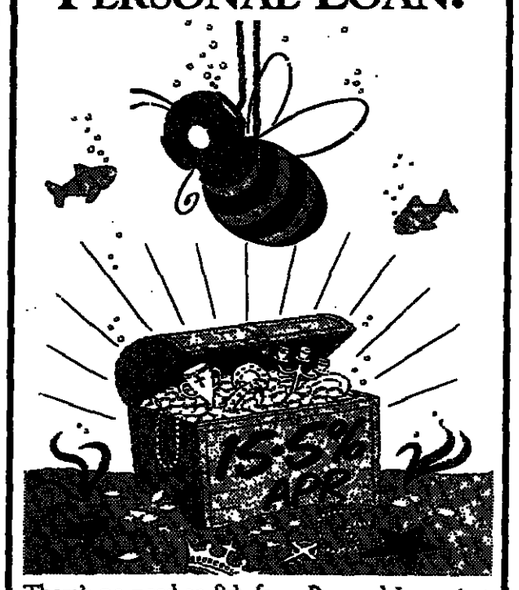
The tribunal overrules a Home Office adjudicator, who said English law did not confer membership of a "social group" on gay men and women as required under international asylum conventions. The tribunal said that while gay relationships had become more acceptable, homosexuals were still subject to different treatment. There was no doubt that homosexuals were treated as a distinct group in Romania.

A Home Office spokesman said last night that each asylum case was dealt with on its merits, and the soldier had been able to prove to the tribunal that he had a well founded fear of persecution.

He said that the Home Secretary, Michael Howard, had not made a decision on whether to appeal against the ruling, as officials still had to consider the judgment.

Mark Watson, of Stonewall, the homosexual rights pressure group, said: "This is an important decision which accepts the 'immutability' of homosexuality, and brings the UK in line with a growing number of countries which recognise that people are persecuted for being gay."

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Very nice, mild-mannered minister confidently to the rescue

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Imagine you are Foreign Secretary. The High Court has ruled that British aid to a foreign project was unlawful. Should you appeal? You ask your Permanent Secretary to study the case urgently and advise. He asks his staff. Their advice arrives.

"Permanent Secretary: First the bad news, then worse. There are no grounds for an appeal. We'd lose. Second: the project complained of is not alone. We have identified three more that also fall foul of the law. They may well come to light.

"Can you fix this?"

No, he can't; but he knows a man who can. A very nice man. A very, very nice man. Another memo goes up ...

"Foreign Secretary: pre-festive bother, I fear. Please see the attached — from our legal pests. Statement to the House? Good luck! See you after Christmas. I'm off to the Azores — lovely in December. Humphrey".

Could a junior minister handle it? No. An Eton and Oxbridge Christopher Reeve is needed: a blend of Jeeves and Wooster with phenomenal powers of sliding out of difficulty. Only SuperDoug could save the day.

MPs filed into the Chamber. The mood was expectant. How would the Government wriggle out? The doors behind the Chair swung open. Something tall with wavy silver hair slipped past Miss Boothroyd.

Was it a bird? Was it a plane? No, it was SuperDoug, striding confidently to the Dispatch Box. His mission? To explain.

Readers, have you ever seen those victims of fraud interviewed on television? They are at a loss to explain why they missed the small print; why they ever believed the bland assurances; indeed they are at a loss to remember what the assurances were. They realise it looks like gobbledegook now. But it sounded so convincing ...

That is how it feels after you have witnessed a Hurd explanation. SuperDoug got away with it. Again.

Looking back, one realises that logic was stood on its head. Reviewing one's notes, I read — with incredulity — this: "I have not in any way crossed swords with the Court." What did he mean? That he did not in fact challenge the rule of law? *Sentenced, handcuffed and led to the cells, any gangster could say as much.*

And what were these other projects, the mini-Pergaus we never spotted? A project to build "a Metro in Ankara". *What?* Taxing the British poor to build a Turkish Tube? A "Botswana flight information" project! But Botswana is a vast, remote semi-desert. Have the bushmen noticed the flight-congestion above? "A television studio in Indonesia." Come again? "Helping link a wide-spread community of poor people," *explained SuperDoug.*

Crikey, there are parts of Britain where the viewers are still waiting for proper television reception.

And nobody except Labour's George Foulkes even bothered to ask about the projects.

Mr Hurd's illogic was staggering. Why was the aid budget not to be reimbursed for years gone by? Budgets were framed to meet commitments, he said, not the other way round. Then why was the aid budget being reimbursed for future years? New commitments, as yet unidentified, he purred, could now be afforded.

SuperDoug was asked why he had continued funding Pergau out of the aid budget after officials said it was wrong. So as not to break Mrs Thatcher's promises, he said: dearie me, one couldn't break promises. That it might be funded out of a different budget — as it will now be — cannot have occured to him.

Nobody asked him why. SuperDoug is a very nice man, after all: a very, very nice man.

Government urged to halt railway privatisation

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT, AND PHILIP WEBSTER

JOHN MAJOR faced demands last night to halt rail privatisation after a consultants' report gave a warning that lack of funds could lead to the closure of nearly half the rail network.

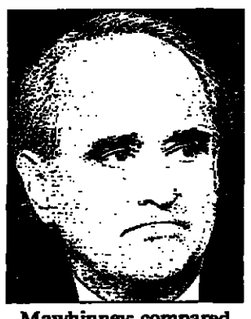
An investigation into rail finances was launched by the Commons transport committee after two of its advisers reported that government cutbacks might be achieved "by closing the least busy 4,000 miles of the 9,000-mile passenger network". They admitted, however, that such action was unlikely to be politically acceptable. Fears that wide areas of rural Britain could be left isolated prompted an angry Commons clash between the Prime Minister and Tony Blair.

The Labour leader said that if the Government pressed on, "it will only show how completely out of touch your Government are with the British people". But Mr Major insisted the scheme would bring benefits for passengers and added: "Since the start of the rail privatisation process, there has been no shortage of scare stories."

Paul Tyler, the Liberal Democrat transport spokesman, said Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, "risks making Beeching look like an amateur".

Michael Meacher, the shadow Transport Secretary, said: "BR will suffer savage cuts in Government subsidies over the next few years."

The authors of the report, Professor Richard Bradshaw and Richard Hope said the factors behind the financial crisis included a revenue loss of £154 million because of the signalworkers' strike, restructuring and upheaval costs of £100 million, a worse than



Mawhinney: compared with Beeching

expected reduction in passenger revenue support amounting next year to a deficit of £100 million, and losses caused by a decline in coal traffic and the late opening of the Channel Tunnel.

The transport committee is to look at "the scale of the cash shortfall facing BR and details of the likely effect on passengers and freight services". It will also investigate "the costs of restructuring the railway and the professional advice employed to assist in this process".

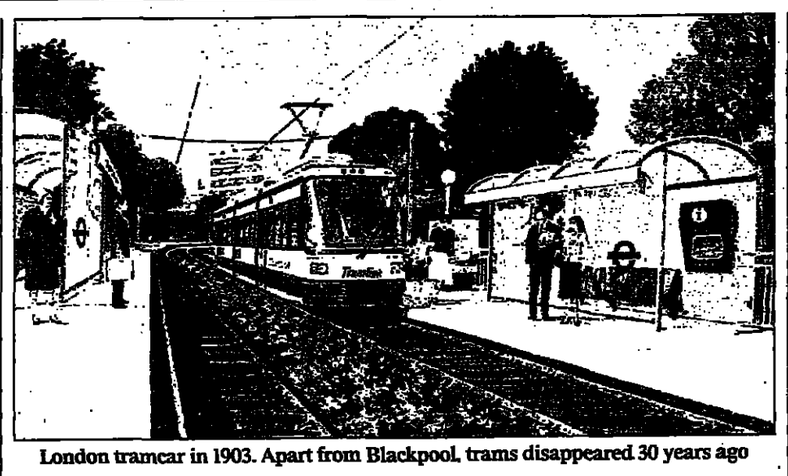
According to some industry sources, the cost of privatisation is so great the Government will either have greatly to increase subsidies or reduce the network to little more than the current main service.

Roger Salmon, the franchising director, is preparing today to issue guidelines for the first group of franchises to be let. The fact that no company or group, other than management buy-out teams, have so far given a definite indication of wanting to run a railway is could be a huge source of embarrassment for the Government.

The reduction of the length of the rail passenger track from 9,000 miles to 5,000 miles is a worst case scenario painted by the advisers.

This would virtually wipe out services north of Glasgow and Edinburgh, almost all lines east of the East Coast main line from Berwick upon Tweed to Peterbrough.

All services to the south and west of Exeter would be at risk as would every service in Wales apart from the main lines to Swansea in the south and Holyhead in the north. Dozens of small, little-used lines in central England would also be at risk.



London tramcar in 1903. Apart from Blackpool, trams disappeared 30 years ago

Tram schemes take travellers on trip down Memory Lane

BY OUR TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 40 years after they were discarded in London as the relic of a slower age, trams are making a comeback. Dr Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, gave the go ahead yesterday for two schemes, funded by the private and public sector, which will reintroduce the vehicles to Croydon and to the Midland Metro between Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

If they are built they will increase to four the number of tram schemes funded by the Transport Department. Manchester's Metro Link opened in 1992 and the Sheffield Supertram started operating earlier this year. The £150 million Croydon scheme will link Croydon with Wimbledon, Beckenham, Elmers End and New Addington, running along or beside roads and over existing rail lines.

The £144 million Midland project, designed to help regenerate the Black Country, will run thrpugh West Bromwich and Wednesbury.



An artist's impression of the new tramway

But in spite of their enthusiasm for the scheme, council leaders in the Midlands claim that because of the requirement for a significant proportion of the cost being *funded locally, the tramline* may never be built.

Dr Mawhinney said: "It is important to get the correct balance between road building and public transport. Light rail schemes bring with them the benefits of cleaner, quieter public transport in a pleasant environment."

Apart from the tourist trams in Blackpool, the vehicles disappeared completely from Britain 30 years ago. Critics doubt whether they are sufficiently attractive to have much effect on removing cars from the road, citing the case of Manchester where their introduction has failed to have any noticeable effect on reducing congestion.

Major faces fight over Spanish trawlers

Proposals to increase the access of Spanish trawlers to British and Irish fishing grounds are threatening John Major with another defeat in the House of Commons. The chance to vote against the Government will come after a debate tonight on European fisheries policy, in which the Opposition will be hoping for support from Euro-sceptic Tories and others representing fishing constituencies.

At issue are plans to permit Spanish trawlers entry to an area of 74,000 square miles, known as the Irish Box, and to allow more of them to fish at a time in wider waters to the west of the British Isles. British fishermen fear drastic cutbacks in their catches of such species as hake, monkfish and prawn, which are already heavily exploited, to accommodate the Spaniards. The proposals are to be discussed by EU fisheries ministers in Brussels next week.

Army tests for drugs

The Army is to introduce random drug testing today to combat rising drug abuse. A civilian contractor has been hired to carry out the work after several months of trials. Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, said in a Commons written reply that the tests would be as strict as those for international athletes.

UK acts on livestock

Britain is to act unilaterally to protect farm animals in transit after European Union agriculture ministers failed yesterday in Brussels to agree on new legislation. Road hauliers will be guilty of a criminal offence if they fail to keep to journey plans specifying the places where animals will be fed, rested and watered.

Hindley fights threats

Myra Hindley is going to law to stop relatives of the moors murders victims threatening to kill her, her solicitor said. Hindley is angry that death threats were made Channel 4's *Witness* documentary, broadcast last week, Andrew McCooey said. "It is not right for a platform to be given and I intend to pursue this matter in the courts."

Submarine found

A Second World War submarine, which was lost with all 37 men on board during a training exercise in 1943, has been discovered off the Isle of Arran. The position of *HMS Vandal* was pinpointed by Royal Navy minehunters. Navy chiefs plan to lay a wreath on the waters above the wreck, which is being treated as an official war grave, next year.

V&A director resigns

Elizabeth Esteve-Coll, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, announced her resignation yesterday. She leaves the London museum, which she has run since 1988, next September, and will become vice-chancellor of the University of East Anglia in Norwich on October 1. "I shall leave with great sadness," Mrs Esteve-Coll, 56, said.

Ulster has the will to succeed, Major tells big investors

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR opened an investment conference in Belfast last night that aims to build on the IRA and loyalist ceasefires to attract investors to Northern Ireland.

The Prime Minister told 270 delegates from America, Europe and the Far East at a dinner at the Europa Hotel that peace would lead to an economic transformation. He said that 25 years of terrorism had held back the province, but after the ceasefires it was now a "society bursting with the desire to succeed".

Mr Major told delegates at the International Investment Forum, who included Ron Brown, the US Commerce Secretary, and Carlo Trojan, who heads the European Commission's Northern Ireland Task Force: "We intend to consolidate peace by showing what each and every person in Northern Ireland stands to gain from it. And already the evidence is all around us — in this fine hotel, which has shed the scars of past attacks and in other hotels filling their rooms for the first time in years."

Mr Major tackled American fears that companies in Northern Ireland discriminate on the grounds of religion when he said that the province had made considerable progress in the last 25 years. He said: "Northern Ireland has some of the most stringent measures in the world for fair employment and community relations to be found anywhere in the world."

He also outlined the Government's political strategy in Northern Ireland in the past year which had opposed terrorism "with all democratic means". He added: "I hope that equally strong pressure to make peace irreversible will come from outside Northern Ireland. People overseas who take an interest in its affairs — wherever their sympathies may lie — should continue to speak up for peace."

Mr Major will address the conference again this morning when he is expected to announce a number of multi-million-pound investments in Northern Ireland that will create hundreds of jobs. He will then tour companies that have recently invested there.

Before the dinner last night Britain and America signed an agreement to link businesses in Northern Ireland with US research and development projects and to give firms in the province greater access to US technology networks.

Clinton's offer, page 23

House ban

Continued from page 1

bell-Savours said many Labour MPs did not find it credible that people "should walk the length of the Palace of Westminster and just happen to enter Mr Blair's office".

He said: "It is not a credible story. We believe that their motive was deliberate: that it was to enter, knowing they had no right to enter that office, and to do whatever they set out to do."

David Winnick (Lab, Walsall N) said a mistake seemed incredible. "There is feeling on the Labour benches that this is ... a deliberate attempt to find out information unofficially from the Opposition leader's office."

But Miss Boothroyd said she had made extensive inquiries into the incident complained of. The Speaker added: "I have even been myself very early this morning into the offices of the Leader of the Opposition, re-familiarising myself with the geography of it all. I am totally satisfied no malice was intended."

She added: "A police inquiry has been very thoroughly carried out, and the police tell me they are satisfied that nothing was taken and nothing was disturbed — and that is the view of the Opposition leader."

John Prescott had said earlier that the incident could be interpreted as the Tories "sending in the yobbos".

Politics, page 11

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Tranquilliser overdose led to death of anorexic twin

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A TWIN who suffered from the slimmers' disease anorexia nervosa, took a fatal overdose of tranquilisers to end her suffering and to free her twin from the same illness, an inquest heard yesterday.

Michaela Kendall, 26, died in April after swallowing pills at her grandmother's home in Sheldon Heath, Birmingham. She died lying next to her sister Samantha, who is recovering from the disease.

Miss Kendall had discharged herself from the Queen Elizabeth Psychiatric hospital only six months earlier. Their mother, Suzy Kendall, told the inquest at Birmingham coroner's court how the twins had been inseparable and had undertaken a slimming pact more than ten years ago after being taunted at school about their weight.

They had initially been flattered by comments on their new appearance and the dieting had quickly become an obsession. "Michaela and Samantha were identical in nearly every way," Mrs Kendall said.

"The anorexia started when they were teenagers. They just couldn't stand the jeering and jibing at school, they were called cruel names like 'tubby twins' and people would shout 'the Kendall twins are fat'.

"They decided to go on a diet over the summer holidays when they were 14 and within six weeks they had lost two-and-a-half stone, they were both so determined.

"The pair of them were proud of their new figures and everyone was in awe of them. Their friends and boyfriends just flocked around them.

"But because of the flattery they thought 'we'll carry on' and the anorexia started. They were never to eat normally again for about 12 years."

Mrs Kendall said Michaela had always opposed treatment. "Michaela was always in and out of hospital, the doctors said her brain was disturbed, but Michaela didn't want treatment, she just wanted to be with her sister.

"It was such a shock when she died because I thought they would never have left each other," she said.

"I am sure now she wanted to come home to die. I am convinced by her wish. She often told me she wanted to die.

Diane Morgan, the sisters' care worker, said: "She told me if she died it would free Samantha to live."

Miss Kendall had been admitted to hospital six times, but had discharged herself each time. She was detained under the Mental Health Act at the Queen Elizabeth Psychiatric Hospital, but won an appeal to be discharged two weeks before her death.

A post mortem examination showed her body contained a fatal level of the sedative nitrazepam, more than ten times the strongest recommended dose. Christopher Edwards, a consultant pathologist, said her body was "grossly emaciated" and she weighed just five stone.

Recording a verdict of death by natural causes, Richard Whittington, the coroner, said Michaela had died as a result of a viral infection to the lining of her heart as well as the consequences of anorexia nervosa and the overdose.

He added: "To hear that Samantha is making some progress with her illness gives me some hope."



Michaela Kendall: "wanted to die"



The wedding carriage on the pavement in Derby after the horses had become separated from it and knocked down Sandra Grubnic

Wedding carriage horses killed girl

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A GIRL aged 16 was trampled beneath the hooves of two runaway horses when they broke free from a wedding carriage in a busy city street, a court was told yesterday. Sandra Grubnic died two days after being crushed by the white stallions when they mounted a pavement.

Denis Molloy, 53, of Brailsford, Derbyshire, owner of the stables that provided the carriage and horses, denies a charge of manslaughter.

John Milmo, QC, for the prosecution, told Leicester Crown Court that the case was unusual, partly because Mr Molloy was not even present when the accident happened in June 1992. The carriage was travelling along Burton Road, Derby, on a Saturday afternoon when the horses became separated from it, Mr Milmo said. The horses mounted a pavement and Miss Grubnic was hit and fatally injured. She died two days later.

Mr Milmo added: "The prosecution say that this accident happened because there was no pin fitted to a detachable pole which joins the horses to the carriage."

He said the pole became detached from its cup as the carriage was going downhill, allowing the front of the carriage to hit the back of the two horses. "It's not something the horses are going to appreciate. It's something that could frighten them. Inevitably they are going to go faster to stop the carriage banging against them. Despite the endeavours of the girl driving, the two horses and the pole became detached from the carriage and the horses mounted the pavement and caused the death of Sandra Grubnic," he said.

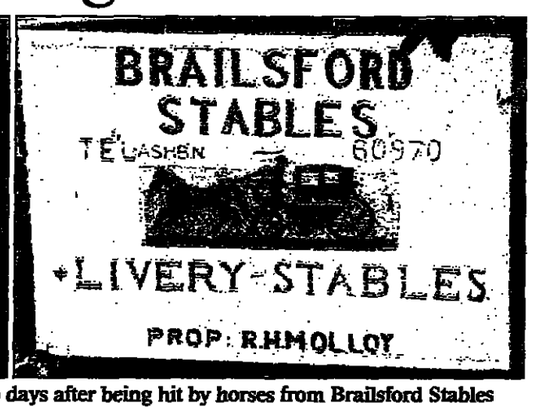
Mr Molloy's niece, Lindsey Appleby, who had worked part-time for him for four years, was driving the carriage. She was accompanied by a groom, Rachel Hollyoakes. Mr Milmo said Mr Molloy caused the unlawful death of Miss Grubnic by failing properly to instruct the driver of the carriage.

Mr Molloy allegedly told officers the pin had probably fallen out, but Mr Milmo said Miss Appleby was never given a pin to attach the horses and cart together. He said Mr Molloy had been proprietor of Brailsford Stables Horse-Drawn Carriages for 15 years.

Miss Appleby had been trained by him and although she had no qualifications, had gained on-the-job experience, Mr Milmo said.

Molloy arrived at court in a Range Rover towing the wedding carriage, which was reversed into the court's precincts and is expected to be shown to the jury later in the case. The trial continues.





Miss Grubnic: died two days after being hit by horses from Brailsford Stables

Operatic phrase left locals out of harmony

BY ALAN HAMILTON

A COURT yesterday considered which opera included the phrase "boom boom boom".

On the second day of a hearing at Thame magistrates court to consider a prosecution by South Oxfordshire District Council against Garsington Opera for excessive noise, a resident of the Oxfordshire village complained that he had felt "trapped, annoyed and inhibited" by the sound of opera floating from Garsington Manor, home of Leonard Ingrams, who has staged a brief open-air opera season each year since 1990.

Peter Rodger, a chartered surveyor who lives in the village on the edge of Oxford, appearing for the prosecution, said that during one performance this year, he could hear from his home "someone shouting 'boom, boom, boom', or words to that effect."

Mr Rodger could not identify the work. James Rankin, the defence barrister, told him: "We have been scratching our heads and cannot think what opera that could be. It sounds more like the Swedish entry in the Eurovision Song Contest."

A straw poll outside the court voted it a phrase from Haydn's *L'Incontro Improvviso*, staged at Garsington last summer.

Mr Ingrams has pleaded not guilty to breaching the terms of his council entertainments licence by permitting excess noise from the opera. Complaints were led by Monica Waud, a social worker and another local resident.

David Suratagar, financial director of the opera, told magistrates that Mrs Waud was bent on getting the opera stopped, and had a long list of complaints besides those relating to noise.

Another defence witness, Louise Verey, said that from her weekend home 100 yards from the arena she could barely hear the opera, and then only very softly and for short periods if the wind was in the right direction.

Called to the witness box, Mr Ingrams told the court that until recently there had been no complaints about noise. The hearing continues.

Doctor 'took drugs with patient'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A HARLEY STREET doctor took cocaine and morphine at his clinic with the daughter of Lord Hartwell, the former proprietor of *The Daily Telegraph*, a court was told yesterday.

The widow of 61-year-old Victor Ratner said that her late husband also drank alcohol in his surgery with Eleanor Berry, who was one of his patients. Gida Ratner, 25, told Knightsbridge Crown Court that the woman she is alleged to have swindled out of nearly £17,000 seemed to have a hold over the society doctor. "Anything she wanted he would give to her. There was some sort of blackmail between them I didn't understand," she claimed.

Last week Miss Berry, who spent four days in the witness box, told the court that she had never taken drugs and that her relationship with Dr Ratner had been platonic.

Mrs Ratner, who lives in a flat at the practice, denies stealing six cheques from her late husband's patient, and an alternative charge that she handled them. She also denies four charges of using a false instrument with intent, two of forging cheques and one deception charge alleging she obtained clothes worth £1,471 from a store in Chelsea.

The prosecution has claimed that Mrs Ratner committed the offences while Miss Berry was receiving treatment for obesity and writing a book about ozone rejuvenation therapy which she was also being given.

Questioned by her counsel, Henry Blaxland, Mrs Ratner told the court that she was born in Sierra Leone and had married in 1990. The former model began working for her husband as a receptionist as well as helping to find patients for the practice, which was in financial difficulties and had a large overdraft.

There were also problems caused by her husband's poor health, the court was told. Dr Ratner had a "very serious" condition for which he took painkillers.

Asked whether her husband, who died last year, took any other drugs, Mrs Ratner replied: "Yes, cocaine ... and morphine." She said she discovered her husband's habit in 1992 when she walked into his surgery. "I saw Eleanor Berry and my husband taking cocaine and morphine. I screamed at him. I said, 'What are you doing?' He said it was just medication. I said I wasn't so stupid. "He tried to cool me down. I said, 'Don't hide things from me.' I was very upset."

On another occasion when she went into her husband's office and saw him with Miss Berry there was an empty morphine bottle was on the table. "She asked for more," Mrs Ratner claimed, adding that her husband and the woman also drank alcohol on the premises.

She described Miss Berry, 44, as a "very demanding" woman. "Everything was wrong with her. She wanted medication every minute," Mrs Ratner said.

The trial continues.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



Women, weakness and Weidenfeld

GINNY DOUGARY MEETS GEORGE WEIDENFELD IN THE MAGAZINE

16 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR TELEVISION AND RADIO IN VISION

Disabled pensioner stabbed to death

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A HOUSEBOUND pensioner, virtually blind, suffering from cancer and with only one leg, was stabbed to death when he disturbed burglars. Police launched a hunt yesterday for the assailants who left Frank Tranter, 74, of Oldbury, West Midlands, in a pool of blood in the sheltered accommodation where he lived.

Mr Tranter, a former soldier whose left leg had been amputated, had been stabbed in the face and neck. His body was discovered on Monday by the warden of the housing block, Mrs Jane Eliment. Mrs Eliment and her husband, Frank, told police they saw three youths running from the back of the bungalow where Mr Tranter lived as they returned from an evening out shortly before 10pm on Monday. When they went to investigate they found Mr Tranter's body.

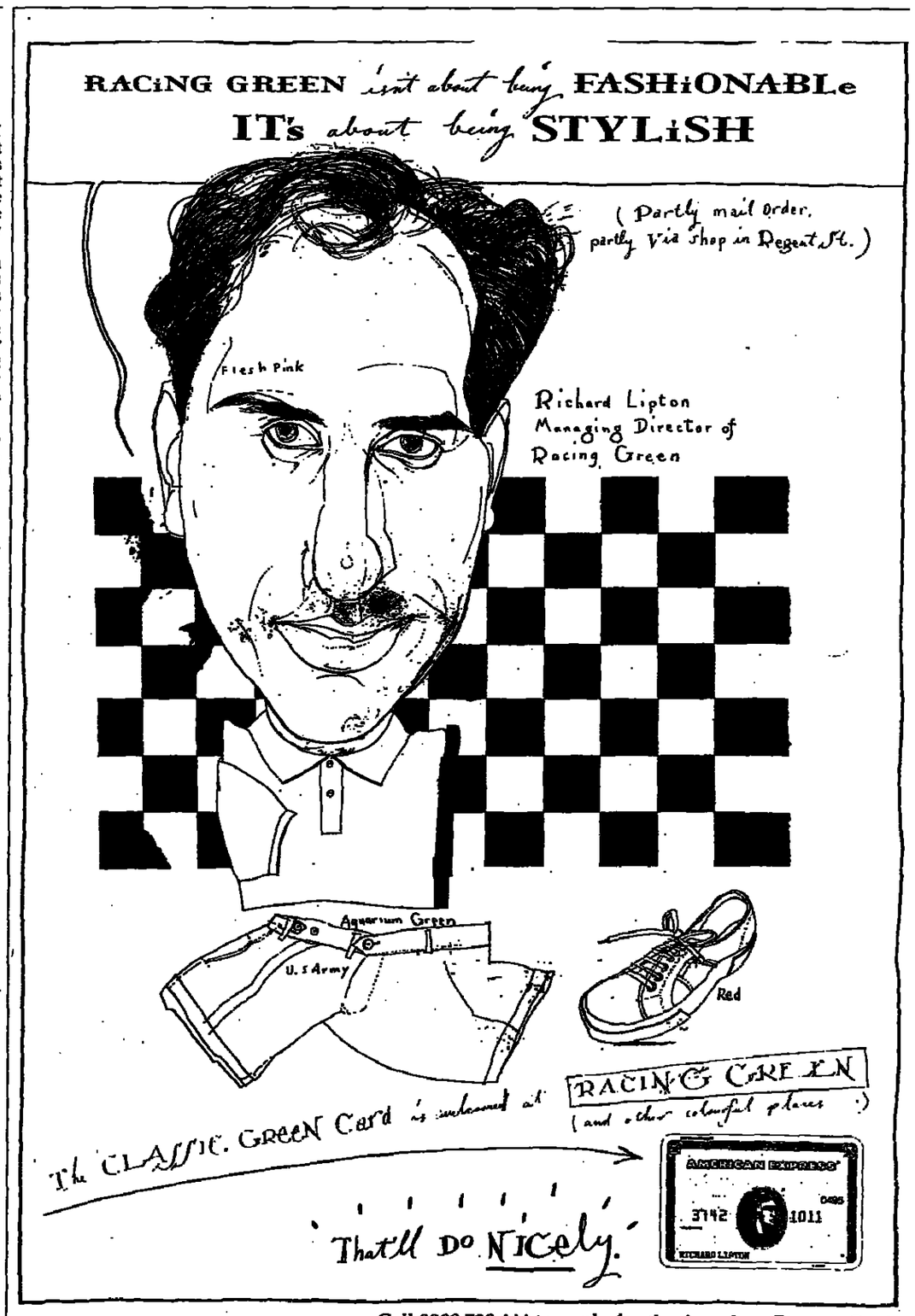
The officer in charge of the inquiry, Detective Chief Inspector Robert Lesserman of West Bromwich police, described Mr Tranter's killing as "particularly vicious and callous". It has yet to be established whether anything had been stolen, but robbery is believed to have been the motive. Police described the wounds to Mr Tranter's face and neck as "extensive".

They said that those responsible had smashed a kitchen window to get in.

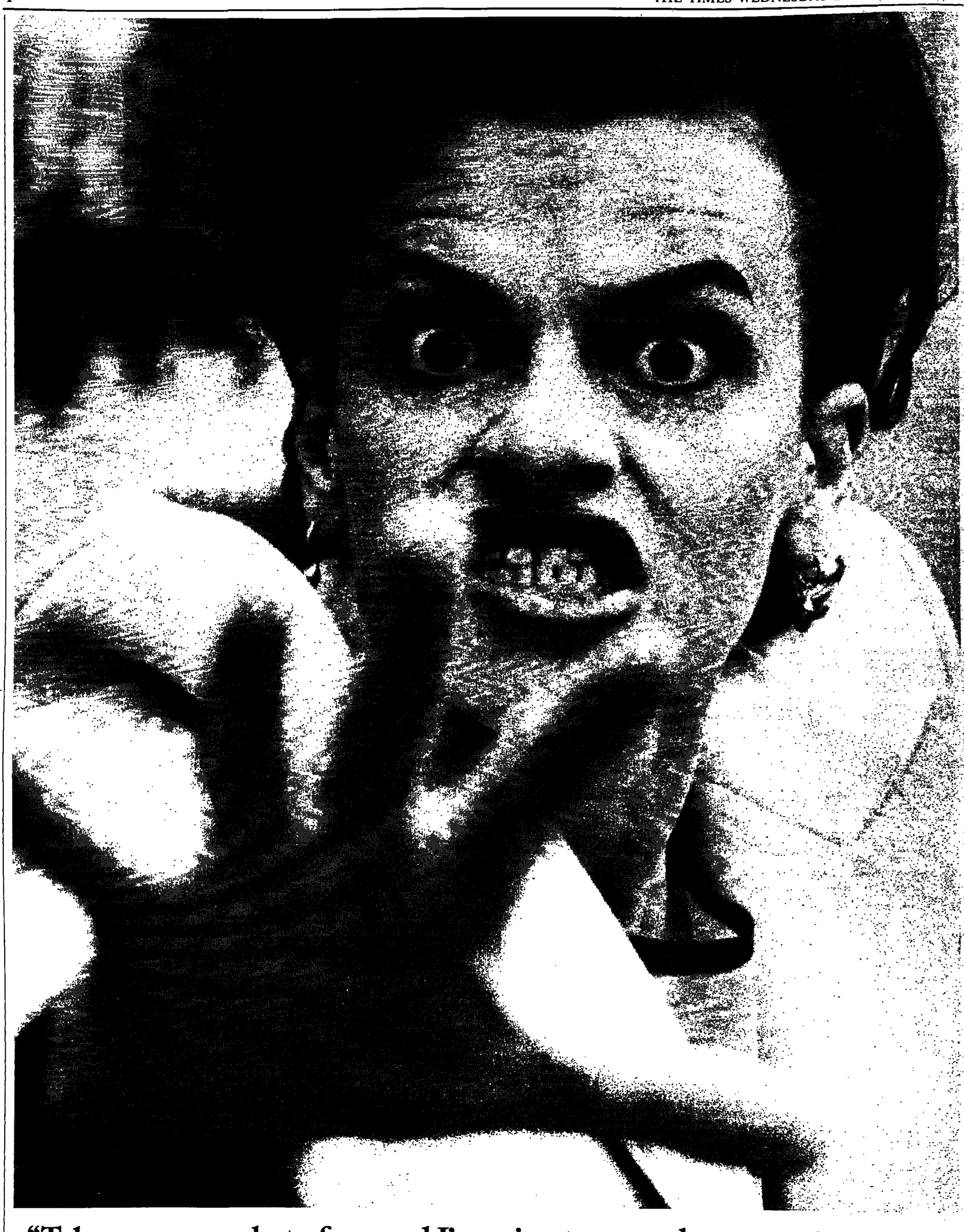
Sunday Express

OUR report yesterday that Ian Brady, the moors murderer had won a malicious falsehood action against *The Sunday Express*, but not been awarded any damages, was wrong. The account, which was compiled from a number of different sources, also incorrectly stated that *The Sunday Express* had admitted that the allegations were false and been published maliciously.

In fact, the newspaper flatly denied the claim and was successful in having it struck out in its entirety. Leave to appeal was refused and the reference in the headline to it being a "libel" action was inaccurate. We apologise for these errors.



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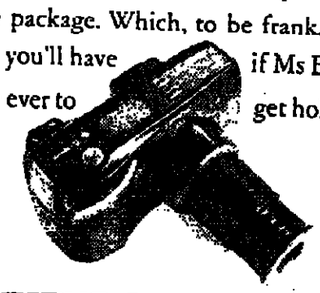
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OLYMPUS SUPERZOOM 120

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Historians use radar to find remains of Culloden

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

ARCHAEOLOGISTS are to use ground-probing radar in an attempt to locate the remains of the Duke of Cumberland's redcoats who died at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. The equipment, similar to that used to search for bodies at the home of Frederick West in Gloucester, is being hired by the National Trust for Scotland at a cost of £2,500.

The trust, which owns much of the battle site near Inverness, is optimistic that the archaeological investigation will reveal valuable information about one of Scotland's greatest defeats at the hands of the English. It took just one hour for Cumberland's 9,000-strong force to defeat the 4,500 men behind Bonnie Prince Charlie. About 300 Hanoverian soldiers died at the last pitched battle on British soil.

The slaughter continued all night and the bloody reprisals against the Highlanders went on for many months. The Battle of Culloden brought to a crushing end Bonnie Prince Charlie's 18-month Jacobite rebellion. After the battle Highlanders were forbidden to play the bagpipes or wear kilts.

A preliminary scan of the battlefield has been completed and a detailed search will be carried out next year. Ross Mackenzie, of the National Trust, said: "We hope to pick up disturbances in the soil so that we can determine the main battle lines and four or five cottages that were near the scene. It is a very exciting prospect. We are on the verge of making new discoveries about a landmark in Scottish history."

The initial search will concentrate on *Achad nan Sasunnach* (The Field of the English) and the trust hopes that the information it yields will be available for an exhibition to mark the 250th anniversary of the battle in 1996. Robin Turner, the trust's archaeologist, said: "The evidence for redcoats being buried there has come down to us through folklore, rather than historical fact. It is known that the Highlanders were mown down by salvoes of cannon-fire while they were jammed between two dykes on the field, but we have failed to find traces of these walls by conventional means."

One of the turf dykes was used for penning sheep and cattle and the English soldiers are believed to be buried inside. Mr Turner said that the trust would like to rebuild the turf enclosure and a dyke so that visitors would be better able to appreciate the way the armies were deployed. Permission to dig would have to be granted by the Secretary of State for Scotland because parts of the area are scheduled as an ancient monument.



It took just an hour for the English to beat Bonnie Prince Charlie's 4,500-strong army at Culloden



MICHAEL POWELL

Michelle Reeve, 14, with seven-year-old Abby Bamford after the ceremony

Schoolgirl stabbed in class honoured for her courage

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A GIRL who was taken hostage in a classroom and stabbed 15 times as her friend lay dead on the floor, movingly described her struggle to overcome the trauma as she received an award for her courage yesterday.

Michelle Reeve, 14, was in class at Hall Garth School, Middlesbrough, last March when a hooded man burst in, stabbed 12-year-old Nicola Conroy to death and slashed Michelle and another girl before being overpowered.

Michelle, who suffered serious injuries to her chest, back, arms and kidneys, said: "When things like that happen you take everything as it comes. I knew if I went back to school straight away I would have no difficulties."

She was speaking at Westminster Abbey, where she was given a Children of Courage award by the Duchess of Kent. Also honoured was Rhys Daniels, the three-year-old from Essex who has had two bone marrow transplants and spent weeks in isolation in his fight against Batten's disease.

There were awards, too, for Jon McNestrie, 12, from Newcastle upon Tyne, who saved his father's life after he cut an artery by fashioning a makeshift tourniquet, and for Robbie Cowin, five, from the Isle of Man, who had to sleep for four months balanced on his knees and forehead after suffering severe scalding to his back and head.

Other children honoured were Abby Bamford, seven, from Lancashire, who lost her left ear and suffered serious injuries when she was run over; Dale Jones, eight, from Nottinghamshire, who lost a foot but plays football with the aid of an artificial limb, and Lubna Karim, 11, from Kent, who helped raise money for herself and her mother to travel to teach Romanian orphans. Carla Hutton, 12, from Manchester, received an award for rescuing three children from a fire.

Viking site halts whale burials

BY OUR SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

AN ATTEMPT to bury the eleven sperm whales that beached themselves last week on the Orkney island of Sanday ran into trouble yesterday when the contractors discovered the burial site was in the same area as a partially excavated Viking settlement.

The whales measure between 40 and 50 feet and each weighs around 40 tonnes. Andrew Sinclair, the contractor employed to dispose of the animals, planned to dig a pit three metres deep by 15 metres wide and 30 metres long above the high tide mark on the beach at Backaskaill Bay. The whales would then be winched up the beach and into the hole but work was halted on Monday when it was discovered that the Viking settlement could be affected.

David Tongue, assistant director of environmental health in Orkney, said: "As soon as we heard about the archaeological remains we travelled out to the island to identify a more suitable site and ensure any delay was minimal."

Three die in wake of smear test errors

BY OUR SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THREE women who were given negative smear test results at the Inverclyde Royal Hospital in Greenock have died of cervical cancer.

Mistakes in the processing of smear tests at the hospital laboratory were caused by poor management and shoddy work practices, according to a government report.

The three women were given misleading results and died before the errors were discovered in 1993. Their deaths have been revealed in the annual report of the director of public health at the Argyll and Clyde Health Board.

About 20,000 women who were tested between 1987 and 1992 had to be recalled last year. Most were traced, retested and given the all-clear. However, 1,945 women who had tested negative were found to belong to a batch of suspect smears. By the time the women were traced, 33 had died, three from cervical cancer.

Argyll and Clyde Health Board is refusing to name the women who died. So far 112 compensation claims have been lodged. Only one has been settled and ten are being negotiated.

Trafalgar treasures sell for £400,000

BY JOHN SHAW

TREASURES of Trafalgar brought the Earl of Northesk, descendant of Nelson's third-in-command, £415,925 at Sotheby's, London, yesterday.

His family had offered the historic group of medals, swords, letters and other memorabilia to the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, but they were turned down. The principal pieces, including Admiral Lord Northesk's gold Trafalgar medal and two others bought for a total £106,000, went to an anonymous private British collector. The estimate for the collection was £200,000.

☐ A draft of one of Churchill's best known wartime speeches, made six days after the victory at El Alamein and saved by a secretary, sold for a record £36,700 at Sotheby's in London yesterday. It was bought by the Imperial War Museum.

☐ An original Captain Scarlet puppet, used in the cult television series during the 1960s, was sold at Phillips in London for £12,075 to an anonymous collector. Victor Neaves, the vendor, kept the puppet in a bank vault in St Albans for over 20 years after being given it by Gerry Anderson, the series creator.

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Ah, December 25th in a far off oil field. Wonderful.

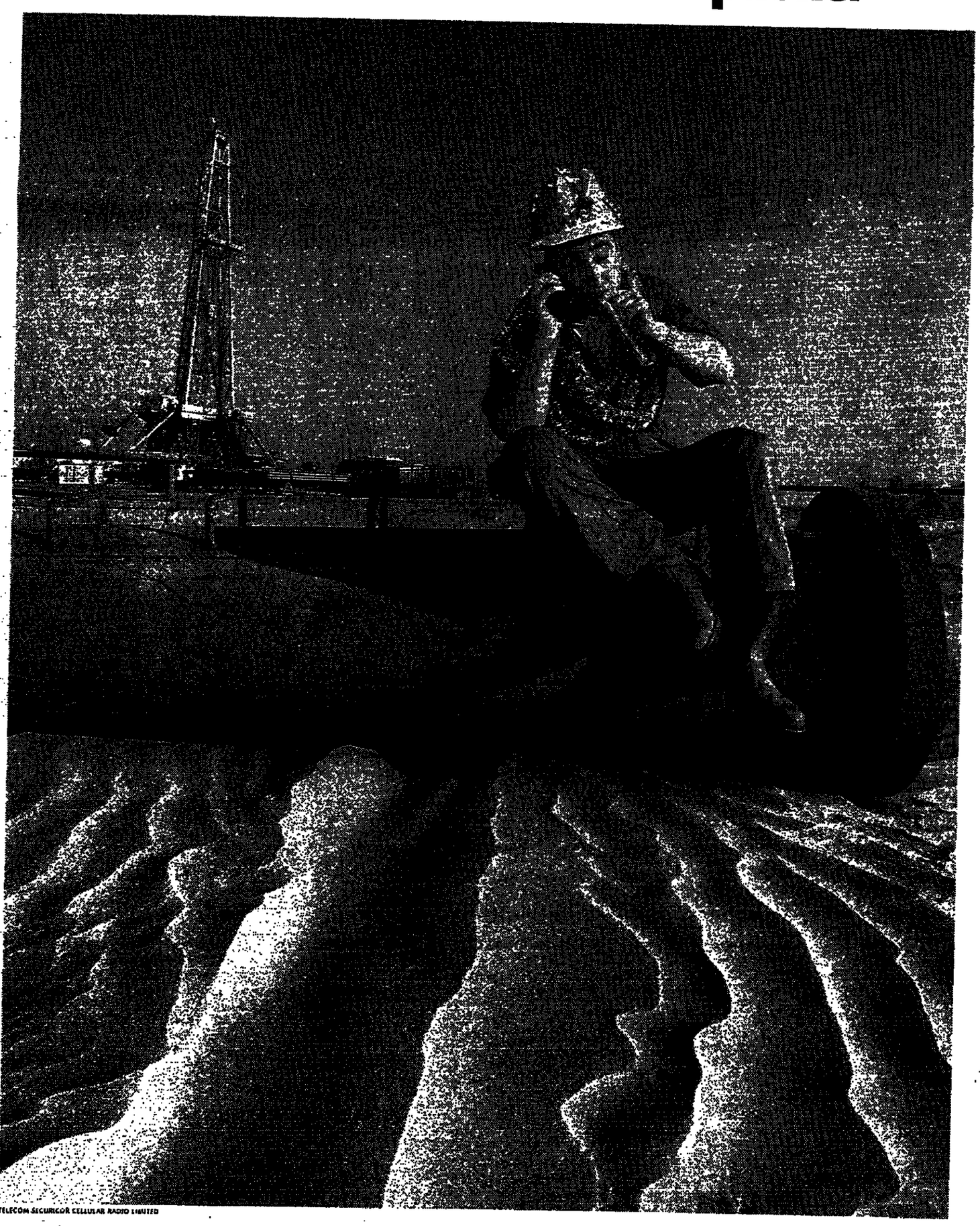
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He's working away from home this Christmas. Thanks to Cellnet so is his phone.



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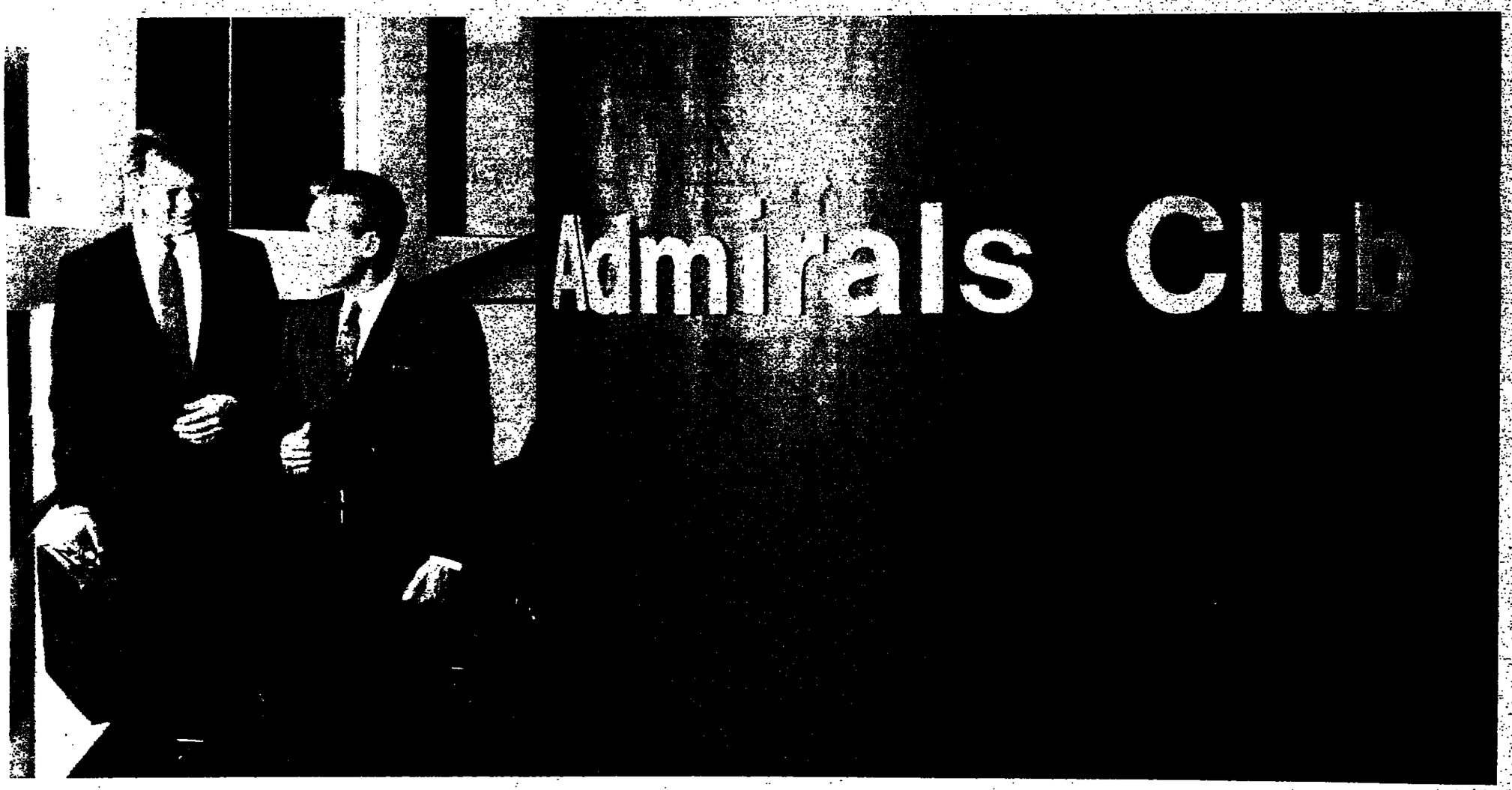
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Teachers appeal to Shephard in attack on 'weak' GCSE marking system

Exam marks upgraded at top school as row flares

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

FRESH controversy flared yesterday over the marking of GCSE English as it was disclosed that more than half of the pupils at a leading comprehensive were undermarked in this summer's examinations.

Of 225 candidates at Durham Johnston School, in Durham, 126 have had their English literature grades increased on appeal and 58 language results have also been upgraded. The school, which was among the top 20 comprehensives in this year's Government league tables, is one of many to contest English results in the first year of restrictions on coursework. The undermarking proved costly for Fiona Bilsborough because her parents had paid for three months' private tutoring before the mistake was rectified. She had intended to take English A level, but has had to settle for history, religious education and sociology.

"It is too late to change," she said. "I would have files full of work to catch up if I tried to switch. It has been very disappointing, but there is nothing I can do." A record number of appeals is expected this year, increasing pressure on ministers to relax their insistence on assessment by examination.

Both the Stuart Bathurst Roman Catholic School, in Wednesbury, West Midlands, and Bohunt School, in Liphook, Hampshire, announced at the weekend that a third of their pupils' literature grades had been increased. In an earlier appeal, three-quarters of the scripts submitted by the John Kelly Girls' Technology College, in North London, were upgraded.

Anne Barnes, general secretary of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said: "We are hearing daily from teachers who are simply amazed at this year's grades. Some are exceptionally good, others incomprehensible because results for literature bear no relation to those for language." Many schools, including Durham Johnston, used syllabuses assessed entirely by course work until the Government ordered that examinations must account for at least 60 per cent of GCSE marks. The limits for English and other subjects will be reviewed in the new year, but Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, has made it clear that no change is likely in the immediate future.

The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority agreed last week to recommend an increase in the proportion of marks that could be awarded for English course work. But even the authority's compromise of a 50 per cent limit, acknowledging the weight of responses from schools, is expected to be rejected. John Dunford, head teacher of Durham Johnston School, said: "It is particularly disappointing that so many results were wrong the first time we have had to do formal examinations. In the years when we produced course work grades, they were moderated externally and no changes were ever made. In our view, course work represents a much fairer assessment of a broader range of skills in English."

Mr Dunford said some pupils resat English unnecessarily last month because of the mistakes, while others had dropped the subject from their intended portfolio of A levels because their initial grades were not good enough. "The examining board has been completely open, but the results place a question mark over the system because the mistakes are across all grades and in all four papers." Len Roe, the school's head of English, took early retirement in July because of his fears for the effects of a return to assessment by examination. He has told Mrs Shephard in a letter: "In my opinion this kind of disaster is not isolated or unexpected but the result of an inherent weakness in an examination system which even a highly competent board cannot avoid."

Margaret Hutchinson, an assistant chief executive of the Northern Examination and Assessment Board, said there did not seem to be an increase in the rate of appeals. She said: "English involves quite a degree of judgment and differences in marking inevitably occur. If candidates are a few marks below a grade boundary, there is always a chance that grades will be increased."



Durham Johnson pupils who had their marks upgraded. From left, Andrew Cunningham, Fiona Bilsborough Chris Malkin and Steven Sherrington. They have been revising for resits which they will not now need to take

Employers 'favour' women graduates

BY BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN are winning the race for jobs in the reviving graduate employment market, university careers advisers reported yesterday. Employers complain that young men are often immature and fail to prepare for interviews, according to the advisers' annual review, *What Do Graduates Do?*

The report said that 43.9 per cent of those graduating in 1993 found work, up by 3 per cent on the previous year. The improvement came in spite of a 20 per cent increase in the number of graduates competing for vacancies.

The proportion of people unemployed six months after graduation fell from 12.7 per cent in 1992 to 11.7 per cent. Evidence suggests that the improvement is continuing.

Margaret Wallis, president of the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, said employers are increasingly targeting traditional universities in their quest for recruits.

The report found that employment prospects for those taking non-vocational degrees were continuing to improve. Economics, geography, history, mathematics, modern languages and psychology all showed employment rates at least 3 per cent up on 1992. At least one in eight graduates in sociology, physics, computing, civil engineering and electronic engineering failed to find work.



Stromvik: chose the right paperback

Thriller ends in round the world trip

MARIA STROMVIK, a student from Sweden, is the winner of *The Times*/Dillons Bestsellers competition. She wins a round-the-world air ticket, courtesy of BT Chargecard, and £250 spending money.

To enter the competition, readers had to examine the Dillons bestseller list printed in the *Weekend* section on November 5 and guess which of the top ten paperbacks would be in the same position three weeks later.

Ms Stromvik, 26, who is studying for a BA in politics at South Bank University, London, guessed correctly that the Scandinavian thriller, *Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow*, by Peter Hoeg (Flamingo) would remain at number three.

Portillo stresses value to Britain of good training

BY ANJANA AHUJA

MICHAEL PORTILLO, the Employment Secretary, yesterday announced nearly a hundred awards for achievement in the field of training.

Opening the 1994 National Training Awards ceremony at the Grosvenor House hotel in central London, Mr Portillo said: "We are all too fond of self-denigration in this country. Today we have a welcome chance to celebrate. These awards are about winning and achieving and about being the best. They are paving the way for UK plc."

Mr Portillo said the award-winners were "independent, determined and persistent. They are not sitting around waiting to be helped, and we need more people to take responsibility for themselves."

Nearly 1,400 nominations vied for 99 awards, most of which went to organisations. Fifteen went to individuals who had overcome obstacles. Mr Portillo also presented awards to organisations involved in training women, members of ethnic minorities and those with special needs.

The Times award for training "to meet the challenge of international competition," went to Deritend Precision Castings Limited, from Droitwich, Hereford and Worcester, which designs and manufactures blades for the aerospace industry. Deritend's sales doubled and exports tripled in three years after a new managing director began a training programme for all 283 employees.



Paul Farrow of Deritend was proud of colleagues

Paul Farrow, the managing director, said he was elated to accept the award. "We really feel proud of the people we work with." Mr Portillo praised Deritend for "spectacular" results.

Awards Supplement

Law is 'too vast and complex' for young

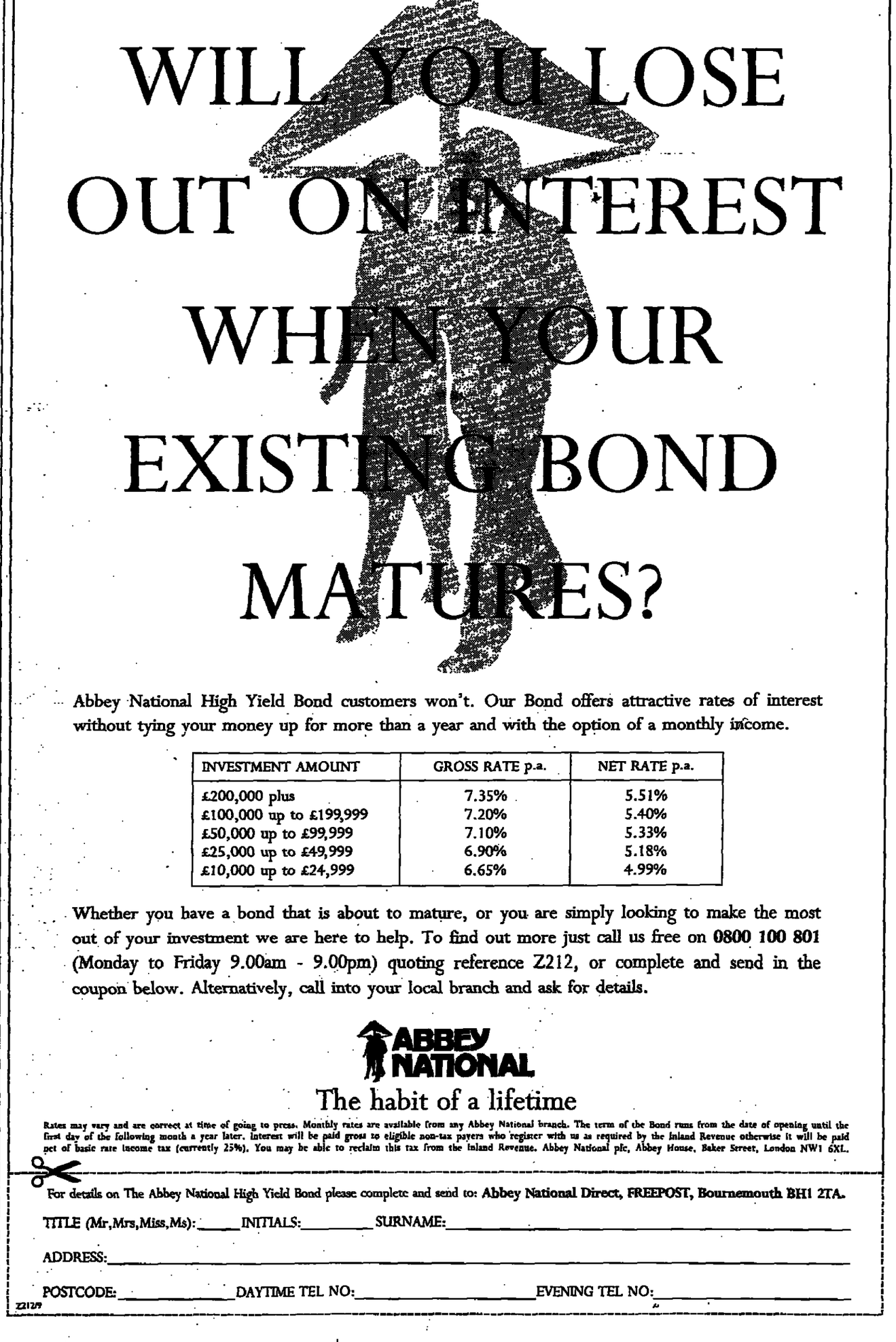
BY LUCY BERRINGTON

A GENERATION of school leavers and young people knows little or nothing about the law because the legal system has become too vast and incomprehensible, leading lawyers and citizenship campaigners said yesterday.

Launching *The Young Citizen's Passport*, a manual for school leavers, Charles Elly, president of the Law Society, said: "It makes no sense for a society to construct an edifice of laws so complex, so distant and so formidable that it is no longer the law of the man and woman on the Clapham omnibus, but seen as the law of the judges, the politicians, the lawyers and the police."

The passport, produced by the Citizenship Foundation, an independent educational charity, is a short practical guide on subjects such as money, family and the police and courts. It also has sections on sex, drugs and parties, and aims to fill the gaps on legal and social issues left by the National Curriculum.

Andrew Phillips, chairman of the foundation, said: "A growing proportion of our population can fairly be described as outlaws ... in the sense of being without the law in terms of knowing little or nothing about it."



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TV star Paul McKenna defends entertainers against accusations of irresponsibility

Minister orders legal review of stage hypnotists

BY RICHARD FORD AND MARIANNE CURPHEY

THE Government is to review the law governing stage hypnotism after a series of complaints over acts in pubs and clubs and growing fears about safety.

Britain's best known hypnotist, the television performer Paul McKenna, yesterday defended the profession against accusations of irresponsibility but would not comment on allegations made against him when the matter of hypnosis was raised in the House of Commons on Monday night.

Tim Smith , Tory MP for Beaconsfield, said that Christopher Gates, 26, had attended one of Mr McKenna's shows and "he was put into regression and left unattended throughout the interval".

He added: "After the show he felt unwell. He was referred to a psychiatric unit for four weeks. Nine months later his condition has deteriorated severely and he now thinks of himself as eight years old and behaves like an eight-year-old. He must be accompanied by an adult at all times."

Mr Gates is considering legal action against Mr McKenna, but his solicitor said he was "finding it very difficult" to fight the case.

Mr McKenna, whose prime-time hypnosis show on Carlton Television has just finished and who was last night on tour in Ipswich, said: "I do not think it is appropriate for me to comment on individual cases concerning someone's psychiatric condition, which of course is confidential to them. Whether it was appropriate for Mr Smith to do so is a matter for him."

He said he had been actively campaigning for reforms to outlaw unscrupulous hypnotists. "If I thought that my act posed any danger to the general public I would certainly not be doing it."

Ministers are now under pressure to bring in stricter controls and close loopholes in existing regulations that have allowed stage hypnotists to operate without a licence. Campaigners for tougher rules want a central register of hypnotists, a code of conduct and compulsory liability insurance, while others are demanding an outright ban.

Michael Forsyth, a junior Home Office minister, announced the review yesterday and promised it would look at the licensing system and at possible risks to people. There have been a number of incidents in which it is alleged that people have suffered harm as a result of stage hypnotism. Margaret Harper, whose daughter Sharron, aged 24, died five hours after being hypnotised in a nightclub, said the Home Office review was "brilliant news".

Sharron Tabarn died in December 1993 from a fit hours after being told to emerge from a hypnotic trance as if a 10,000-volt electric shock had passed through her chair. She had been to a show in Leyland, Lancashire.

Mrs Harper, who founded the Campaign against Stage Hypnotism in January, said of the announcement: "This is exactly what is needed to make people more aware of the problems and dangers of stage hypnotism."

Mr Forsyth told MPs in an adjournment debate that though there was not a case for banning stage hypnotism, "there are genuine concerns, whether justified or not, about the possible adverse consequences that some people might suffer after participating".

He added that there were also difficulties in enforcing controls under the 1952 Hypnotism Act.



McKenna: denies his act poses any danger



Sharron Tabarn, who died five hours after being hypnotised, and her children

MP tells of 'hellish' aftermath for trance victims

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

AN MP who pressed for tougher rules on hypnotism said yesterday that he wanted to stop "cowboys" from endangering the public. Colin Pickthall, Labour MP for Lancashire West, said some hypnotists did not seem to care about the after-effects. "It is possible for someone to learn quickly how to hypnotise people and within days to be doing so on stage, even though that person does not understand, and possibly does not even care about the consequences of what he is doing. It is those 'cowboys' that we are most worried about."

Mr Pickthall told MPs of a series of cases, including one member of the public who had become a compulsive onion-eater after undergoing hypnosis and another who went into a trance every time someone clapped. The MP said he began campaigning for changes to the rules after being alerted by Margaret Harper, whose daughter Sharron Tabarn died after being hypnotised at a club in Leyland, Lancashire. He said Mrs Tabarn was told to come out of her trance as if she had received a 10,000-volt electric shock. "Her husband took her home in a somewhat dazed state, and five hours later she died," Mr Pickthall told MPs.

The inquest recorded a verdict of accidental death and an expert witness declared that there was no connection between hypnosis and any physical side effects. But Mr Pickthall said: "That is patent nonsense. The Home Office pathologist said, 'It is hard not to think there was a link.' My view is that the coincidence is too great to be dismissed."

Other cases he highlighted included a man from Prestatyn, Clwyd, who was unable to work or hold a conversation as a result of stage hypnotism and had attempted suicide. David Burill, of Blackpool, collapsed immediately after being brought round from a trance. "He went crazy — his words — and had to be re-hypnotised. He suffered from violent headaches for weeks afterwards." Mr Pickthall said. A man from Barnet, north London, had suffered violent headaches since being hypnotised in 1992. "He describes it as having made his life hell," the MP said. A Rotherham man was said to suffer headaches, violent uncontrollable anger and persistent panic attacks. He had been in hospital several times, receiving anti-depressants, and had a permanent sleeping disorder. Dean Chambers, from Blackpool, had a paralysed arm for four weeks after being placed in a trance.

Research loophole allows the show to go on

BY A STAFF REPORTER

STAGE hypnotism in public houses and clubs is governed by laws passed in the 1950s and guidelines issued in the 1980s.

The 1952 Hypnotism Act was passed after a woman said she suffered depression after taking part in a stage act. It says that halls, pubs and clubs must apply to the local authority for a licence to put on a public performance. Under the Home Office guidelines issued in 1989, hypnotists can be fined up to £400 for staging acts in a club or other place of entertainment without permission from the council.

Volunteers must be over 18 and there should be no regression to childhood, which can awaken traumas, or catalepsy, where the subject is convinced his body has gone rigid.

Local authorities were advised in 1989 to attach conditions to licences including checking whether the hypnotist has been refused a licence in the past. Volunteers should not be made to behave in an "indecent, offensive or harmful" manner or to consume harmful substances, and all hypnotic suggestions must be removed from the minds of subjects, including the audience. The guidance recommends that no inducement should be offered to members of the public to take part.

The statutory controls do not, however, cover hypnotism for "medical, scientific research", and there have been reports of stage hypnotism for "research purposes" in public houses.

MPs were told yesterday that David Tabb had gone ahead with a performance in a public house after the council had refused permission for his show. Colin Pickthall, Labour MP for Lancashire West, said in the Commons that Mr Tabb had told *Stage & Television Today*: "Under the wording of the Act you don't need permission for research so I just say my show is private research and there is nothing they can do."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Shoppers chase raiders

Christmas shoppers ran after three smash and grab raiders who stole seven watches worth £25,000 from the window of a jewellers in the Harlequin Centre, Warford, yesterday. A police officer was injured in the chase that followed on the M1 and M25 as his car was deliberately rammed. Three people from north London were arrested.

Officer charged

An RAF squadron leader appeared in court charged with the manslaughter of a soldier who was decapitated during an air-drop exercise. Michael Morison, 41, of RAF Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, was released on bail by Cirencester magistrates until January 10.

Fatal sleep

A man who slept in his garaged car after a "boys' night out" died from exhaust fumes, Mathew Haycock, 23, who turned on the engine for heat, did not want to wake his wife and child, the Hull inquest was told. Verdict: accident.

Murder inquest

An inquest was opened into the death of Michael Meenaghan, a scientist shot through the kitchen window at his Oxford home. The coroner, Nicholas Gardiner, adjourned the hearing in Oxford for six weeks.

Funfair death

A father and son have been charged with the manslaughter of a customer who fell to his death from their fairground ride. James Burton, 44, and his son, also James, 22, of Sheffield, Hampshire, will appear in court next year.

Jewellery raid

Thieves stole a 500lb safe containing £58,000 in jewellery and cash from a house in Stockport, Greater Manchester, by cutting through a bedroom ceiling.

Joker banned

Eddie Messenger, a squash coach from Manchester, has been banned for life by Britannia Airways after joking that he was carrying a missile.

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Flood victims with no insurance fall prey to loan sharks

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

FAMILIES made homeless by flooding in Paisley, Strathclyde, have been warned not to succumb to loan sharks who have descended on the Ferguslie Park housing scheme, charging interest of up to 1,000 per cent.

Strathclyde Regional Council has printed leaflets advising people who are approached to seek advice from trading standards officers, citizens' advice volunteers and social workers at the Apex emergency centre in Ferguslie Park, one of the most deprived housing estates in Strathclyde. About 300 people have been flooded out in Paisley and very few have insurance.

Hugh Dougherty, of Strathclyde Region, said: "Most people have no insurance and no possessions. Christmas is coming and they are facing a cash crisis. The loan sharks take their DSS benefit books as collateral and charge up to 1,000 per cent interest. We are trying to warn people that their situation will only get worse if they succumb."

The flood waters started to recede yesterday. Electricity companies battled to reconnect damaged homes before a frost, forecast for today, made the situation worse. The removal of sewage from basements was made a priority because of the potential health hazard.

One person is still missing and 700 people have been made homeless. Police have found the bodies of James McClement and John Fury, both 17, from Twechar, and the car in which they were swept away when a bridge collapsed on Saturday. The third man, Ian Graham, 35, of East Cluden, Dumfries, was presumed dead after he fell into waters at Devorgilla Bridge, Whitesands.

As the local authority started to count the cost of cleaning up, the Government was criticised by opposition MPs for failing to pledge money for the emergency. Mr Dougherty said the bill for Strathclyde would run into millions of pounds.

There is already a massive overtime bill for staff dealing with the flooding. The regional authority has pledged to deal with the emergency now and count the cost later but its budget is stretched. The council faces the possibility of rate capping next year and it will already have to increase its council tax by 25 per cent and cut services by 5 per cent to maintain standards. Mr Dougherty said it was too early to say what the total cost of the flooding would be and how it would affect the council tax.

George Robertson, Shadow Scottish secretary, said: "The Government's response has been pathetic."

He accused Allan Stewart, the Scottish Office Minister, of being a Scrooge. "He should show some humanity at Christmas time," Mr Robertson said.

IAN WALDIE: REUTER



Craig Byres with his cat Jinty McInty leaving his family's flooded home on the Ferguslie Estate in Paisley, Strathclyde. The floods have started to recede

Money study fails to justify image of 'ruthless lender'

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

BORROWING money from licensed moneylenders is an extremely expensive way for many poor people to get credit, with annual interest rates ranging from 100 to 500 per cent, according to a survey published today.

Most of the three million people borrowing from 12,000 licensed moneylenders pay little or no attention to the rate because they are concerned only about the amount of cash borrowed and the level of weekly repayments. The first study of the licensed moneylending industry found that, in spite of a poor image, lenders were not "ruthless loan sharks". There was no evidence of intimidation, threats or violence being used to extract payment from customers. However, the Policy Studies Institute study said there was evidence that the strong personal relationships between collectors and customers encouraged dependence and possible manipulation.

Karen Rowlingson, author of the report, said the drawbacks of a licensed moneylender included the very high interest rates and the practice of allowing customers to pay off an old loan with a new one. Her report said that moneylenders' customers had limited access to other forms of credit "and so have little choice".

The high cost of credit was mainly due to the expense of doorstep collection and the risks of lending to those on low and unstable incomes. The study found that few people were in a desperate state when they approached a moneylender. Some wanted to buy consumer goods, others to smooth out the ups and downs of irregular incomes.

The Consumer Credit Association welcomed the main conclusion that there was no exploitation but said that criticism of the high interest rates failed to acknowledge that the average loan was £150, a sum most banks would not be interested in lending.

☐ *Moneylenders and their Customers* (Policy Studies Institute; £9.95)

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer East — **Game all**

	♠1083 ♥K102 ♦J92 ♣AK42	
♠KQJ7 ♥A98 ♦108 ♣QJ105		♠9642 ♥J765 ♦Q73 ♣73
	♠A5 ♥Q43 ♦AK854 ♣988	

W	N	E	S
—	—	Pass	1♦
Dble	Rdble	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All pass	

Opening lead: ♠K

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Graham Kirby and John Armstrong will be appearing in the Macallan International Pairs in January. They have been the mainstay of most British teams for the past ten years or so. Their bidding is aggressive, so their declarer play needs to be excellent as they are often in optimistic contracts. On this deal, from a match against Wales, Kirby made his 3NT contract, while the Welsh declarer went down in 2NT.

Both declarers received a spade lead which removed the entry to the diamond suit. The Welsh declarer, who had heard a similar start to the auction, expected East to have the diamond length. As he only needed four tricks in the suit, he chose to play a low diamond to the eight, jack and queen. Later he played for the eight to have been a singleton and ran the nine, thus losing two diamond tricks and his contract.

Kirby has greater experience in such contracts and soon showed the way home. He won the ace of spades, played a heart to the king and led the jack of diamonds. It was hard for East to cover — he might easily be crashing his partner's singleton king — so he played low. Now Kirby had nine tricks — five diamond tricks, one trick in each major, and two in clubs.

Macallan Pairs

The Macallan International Bridge Pairs Championship, in association with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, will be held at the White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1, on January 25, 26 and 27. For details and tickets contact the English Bridge Union, Broadfields, Bicester Road, Aylesbury, Bucks HP19 3BG (tel 0296 394414).

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

England triumph

With two rounds to go in the chess Olympiad in Moscow the English team has finally scored a smashing victory over a major rival that has brought them within striking distance of the lead.

England annihilated "Yugoslavia", a team comprised exclusively of Serbs playing under the Yugoslav flag, by the score of 3.5-0.5. There were wins by Short, Adams and Hodgson and a draw by Speelman.

Top scores now are: Russia A 29, Russia B 28.5, Estonia, Netherlands, Bosnia and England 28.

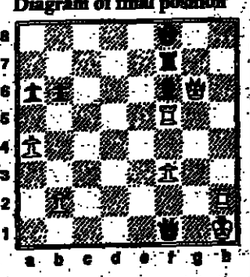
White: Ilincic (Yugoslavia)
Black: Hodgson (England)
Moscow Olympiad, 1994

Pire Defence

1	d4	d6
2	e4	Nf6
3	Nc3	g6
4	Nf3	Bg7
5	h3	0-0
6	Be3	a6
7	a4	b6
8	Bc4	e6
9	0-0	d5
10	exd5	exd5
11	Bb3	Bb7
12	Ne5	Ne4
13	Nxe4	dxe4
14	Qg4	Bd5
15	Bg5	f6
16	c4	h5
17	Qe2	Bb7
18	Nxg6	hxg6
19	d5+	Rf7
20	Ne5	Bd5
21	Nxd7	Kxd7
22	Qxh5+	Kf8
23	Bxd5	Qxd5
24	cxb6	cxb6
25	Ra3	Nd7
26	Rg3	Nf6
27	Rxg6	Qxd4
28	Qg6	Qd7
29	Rc1	Ra7
30	Rf5	Qe6
31	g4	e3
32	g5	Rf7
33	gxf6	Bxf6
34	Kh1	e2
35	Re1	Qe4+
36	f3	Qh4
37	Rxe2	Qxf3+
38	Rh2	Qf1+

White resigns

Diagram of final position



After 39 Qg1 Qxg1+ 40 Kxg1 Bd4+ Black wins the white rook.

Georgia leads

In the parallel competition for women's teams in Moscow the squad from Georgia has virtually assured itself of the gold medals.

With 26.5 points, they have opened up a three point margin over their closest rivals, the Hungarians. The English women have 19 points.

Winning Move, page 44



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Parish priest to be head of Ireland's Catholics

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A parish priest was yesterday appointed leader-elect of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland. Mgr Sean Brady said his parishioners "are going to be amazed by today's news".

Mgr Brady, priest of Ballyhaise, a parish of 1,300 people about six miles south of the Cavan-Fermanagh border, since last autumn, and former rector of the Irish College in Rome, pledged to give his new job, evidently a source of amazement to himself as well, his "very best shot".

He has been appointed Coadjuter Archbishop of Armagh. The title, conferred for the first time since 1922, means he will automatically succeed Cardinal Cahal Daly, who was 77 in October, as Archbishop of Armagh, and Primate of All-Ireland, head of the country's four million Roman Catholics, on the cardinal's retirement.

Unlike an auxiliary bishop, a coadjuter bishop has the right of succession to an incumbent. Monsignor Brady, 55, is the first Coadjuter Archbishop of Armagh since the Reformation who was not already a bishop on appointment. Cardinal Daly, who has been Archbishop of Armagh for four years, submitted his resignation to the Pope on his seventy-fifth birthday, as he had to under canon law. His resignation was not then accepted by the Pope, but speculation was mounting in Ireland yesterday that Cardinal Daly's retirement could not now be far away, and would certainly come before the end of the decade.

Mgr Brady, a keen footballer, born in Laragh, Co Cavan, said he was still "trying to come to terms with the reality of the situation ... I am about to take a leap into the unknown. Although my work has brought me into contact with many bishops over the years, I can have only an outsider's grasp of the challenges, the responsibilities and the difficulties of episcopal leadership today. The past week for me has not exactly been one of calm reflection and quiet meditation."

The Vatican's imaginative appointment will give Ireland a comparatively young and energetic new leader of the calibre that is needed to help the Church transcend the repeated sex scandals that have threatened its credibility over the past few years.

Cardinal Daly welcomed the appointment and described Mgr Brady as "eminently qualified" to lead his historic see of St Patrick into the next millennium.

He said: "The workload of an Archbishop of Armagh is a heavy one. It broke the health of even men as robust and relatively young as my two predecessors, Cardinal Conway and Cardinal O Fiaich. Even though I have been most ably and generously helped over the past three years by my auxiliary, Bishop Gerard Clifford, the workload seemed constantly to increase."

Throughout his priesthood, Monsignor Brady has earned a reputation for his pastoral ministry and organisational skills.

He was prominent in organising the papal visit in 1979, and arranged a papal audience for the Republic's football team during the 1990 World Cup in Italy. Monsignor Brady will have impressed the Vatican during his long term at the Irish College in Rome. He was appointed vice-rector in 1980 and succeeded as rector in 1987, strengthening the pastoral training programme for seminarians, and making the college an unofficial centre for Irish people visiting Rome.

ALAN LEWIS



Monsignor Sean Brady, with Cardinal Daly, speaking at Armagh yesterday

Soviet collapse caused suffering in Caucasus

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE break-up of the Soviet Union, greeted in the West, has brought many parts of the former empire a heavy price for freedom.

In the southern Caucasus, independence struggles and internecine fighting have left the economies of Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Chechenia close to collapse, their infrastructure in ruins, and have created more than a million refugees. Geoffrey Dennis, director of the international division of the British Red Cross, who has recently returned from the region, says that people are suffering not only as a result of civil wars and border conflicts. The collapse of the command economy, as well as the fighting, has brought economic chaos and unemployment, without even the most basic social security.

"In Georgia there is scarcely a single factory still open," he says. "Under Soviet rule the country was assigned the production of tea and of farm machinery, both of which are of very inferior quality and for which there is no demand." Some 300,000 refugees are living with friends and relatives or in public buildings. Hyper-inflation has made the currency worthless, and pensioners can afford no more than four loaves of bread a month. The British Red Cross is distributing food, medicines, winter clothing and blankets. In the Abkhazia region, food kitchens have been set up, helping 50,000 people.

In Azerbaijan, the International Red Cross and the Iranian Red Crescent have mounted a relief programme to provide food and shelter for 750,000 refugees displaced by years of armed conflict with Armenia over the enclave of Nagorno Karabakh.

In Armenia, war, recession and hyper-inflation have forced people to sell their possessions. The daily bread ration supplies just 800 calories. There are power cuts and water shortages. The International Red Cross has distributed 90,000 food parcels.

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Attractions of green shopping break through class barriers

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

GREEN shopping has survived the recession and is appealing to a broader spectrum of society, according to a survey published today.

Green goods have grown in popularity over the past four years and now attract manual workers and older people. Environmental groups had claimed that green issues were falling off the political agenda, but Angela Hughes, consumer research manager at Mintel, the market research company that carried out the survey, said politicians ignored the findings at their peril. "As far as the average man and woman in the street is concerned, [the environment] has not gone off the boil," she said. "It has spread across a much wider range of consumer groups. It is not just teenagers and professionals and managers anymore. Environmental concerns have spread to other age groups and across all occupations."

The survey of nearly 1,000 people, carried out in May, found that the number uninterested in green issues had fallen to 10 per cent compared with 18 per cent in a similar survey in December 1990. Ninety per cent said they looked for environmentally friendly products, occasionally bought green products or were concerned about the environmental impact of goods and services, compared with 82 per cent in 1990. The number willing to pay an average premium of 13 per cent more for an environmentally friendly or ethically grown food was up seven points to 60 per cent.

The number of investors prepared to take a lower return from a unit trust proven to be ethically responsible has risen from 30 per cent in 1990 to 38 per cent in 1994. Green shopping was strongest in southern England four years ago. Norther England is the only area to have shown a decrease in interest since then. In Scotland it has climbed from 31 per cent to 44 per cent. The main environmental concerns were animal testing, damage to the ozone layer and river and sea pollution.



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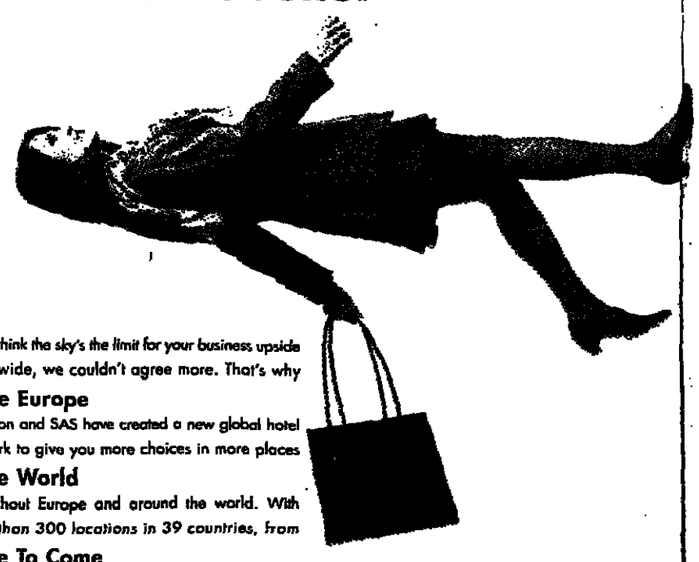
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Referendum pledge will fuel party strife, Major told

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TORY pro-Europeans warned John Major yesterday that an early announcement of a referendum on Europe would intensify rather than quell internal party strife.

As the Prime Minister was accused of giving way to a minority by moving towards a referendum, senior ministers said privately that promising such a move now would be fraught with dangers for the Government.

They argued that it would mean the effective opening of a referendum campaign that could go on for years, with disputes between the opposing camps about the questions to be put and interminable speculation about the stance of individual ministers.

Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine are among the ministers understood to be against a referendum in principle, and they are believed to be even more concerned about the possibility of an imminent promise of one.

Mr Major is felt by the pro-Europeans to have gone far enough with his declaration on Monday that if the circumstances warranted it a referendum would be staged. Yesterday he again held open the prospect, but cautiously stated that constitutional issues would have to be considered and that "snap judgments" would be unwise.

In the Commons Tim Yeo, MP for Suffolk South, said that if the outcome of the 1996 inter-governmental conference (IGC) was to produce substantial changes in the EU then the use of a referendum might be justified. "But in the intervening period, speculation about the kind of question to be asked is entirely fruitless."

Mr Major agreed, saying: "It is indeed extremely difficult in advance of the IGC to know precisely what the question might be in a referendum."

He is, however, under Cabinet pressure for the Government to agree a line on a referendum that would hold at least until the 1996 conference on the future shape of Europe.

A fierce attack on Mr Major's latest shift came from Sir Edward Heath, who took Britain into Europe. He said that if Mr Major had taken the step towards a poll to appease Tory MPs who had had the party whip withdrawn over their Euro-revolt it would "fail completely, and is therefore mistaken".

The Tory outcasts had got the upper hand. "They, in fact, are running the country and the Government. I don't find that acceptable and now is the time to say so quite bluntly. This is one of the things that is deplorable at the moment."

Sir Edward said on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme that one of the reasons the public had become more inclined towards a referendum was because they had lost confidence in Parliament and the Government. "All that is quite evident from public opinion polls, it can't be denied. They [the public] are saying we must find some other way, and the other way is to have a referendum.

"The way to deal with it is for the Government to regain its authority, and for Parliament to show it does know how to behave."

Sir Edward said the Tory rebels were "relentless in their pursuit both of the Prime Minister and to get us out of the European Union".

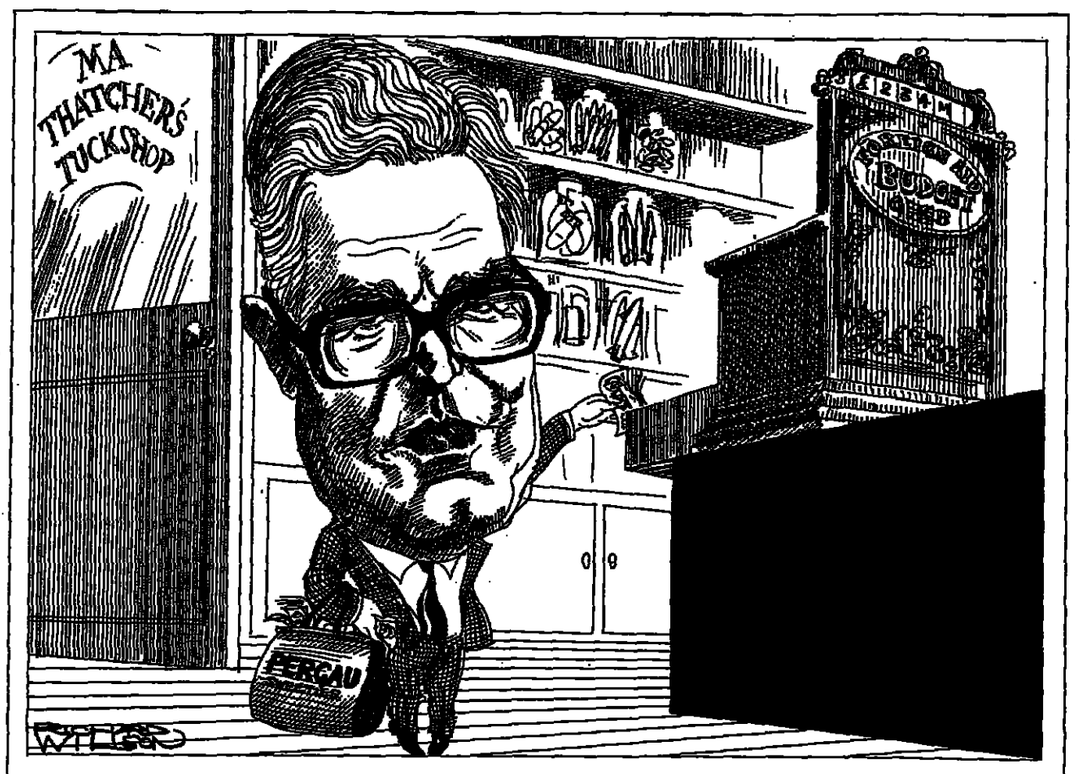
He added: "So this [move towards a referendum] is pointless and can be very damaging because it shows he has given way to small minority in the whole of our party."

He said the 1975 referendum on staying in the European Community came after Harold Wilson, then the Prime Minister, had his arms twisted by some Cabinet members. "We won the referendum by 66 per cent to 33 per cent, but the people who demanded the referendum in his Cabinet ... have never, never, never accepted the result. So from the parliamentary point there, it was pointless, a failure."



Heath: Tory outcasts have the upper hand

John Patten, page 18



Hurd sorts out compromise from a scandal of small proportions

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Pergau affair is now over — buried yesterday by Douglas Hurd. As a scandal it never amounted to much in the first place. It was largely a matter of accounting practice. No British minister or official misappropriated funds. British industry won large contracts providing jobs here. For most voters, and some right-wing Tory MPs like John Townend, that is the end of the story.

There is more to the affair than that, but not nearly as much as the Opposition parties and the overseas aid lobby claim. Only if you believe that overseas aid should be focused solely on the relief of poverty in the Third World is it wrong for Britain to become involved in projects like Pergau. If you do not take that view, then it is a practical question of value for money. The Aid and Trade Provision, established by a Labour Government, anyway only amounts to 6 per cent of the overall overseas aid budget.

Dealing with governments in Third World countries often involves tacit, or explicit, understandings about links between aid and other matters, such as arms. That seems to have occurred in this case when Baroness Thatcher had her talks with the Malaysian Prime Minister in 1988 — producing what Mr Hurd yes-terday referred to, euphemistically and with evident embarrassment, as a "temporary entanglement".

The affair has highlighted Lady Thatcher's tendency to regard herself as chief saleswoman for British industry overseas and her highly personal way of doing business with heads of other governments. In the late Thatcher years, lines between business and politics often became blurred. But once she had given her word, her successor, and other ministers such as Mr Hurd, believed it would be against the national interest, and very damaging to Britain's relations with Malaysia, to break that pledge. That is why the Foreign Secretary overruled Sir Tim Lankester, then permanent secretary and accounting officer for the Overseas Development Administration, who had entered a formal note of protest because of his doubts about the economic viability of the project. Some of his doubts have been borne out and the cost of the dam has risen sharply compared with estimates in 1988.

Otherwise, the point at issue is whether the support for the Pergau dam came under the right budget. The High Court ruled that the project should not have been financed under the relevant provisions of the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act. Mr Hurd has decided not to appeal against this judgment. Instead, he has proposed that the costs of the Pergau dam assistance, and three smaller projects which might fall outside the law as interpreted by the court, should now be financed separately. This year and next, funding will come from the reserve, at a cost of £65 million. That is a sensible compromise, which incidentally means more money for aid to Bosnia and other relief in the short term. It is certainly not a resigning matter.

Mr Hurd was saddled with a commitment, with possibly murky edges, made by Lady Thatcher. The court found against him not on this aspect of the deal but on the accounting point. As Michael Howard can also testify, this case shows how much secretaries of state are now constrained by the courts. The growth of judicial review is now one of the most underappreciated aspects of the British political system.

The main lesson of the Pergau affair is that such export aid should all be out in the open and not semi-hidden under the overseas aid budget as somehow linked to aid for the poor in the Third World. Only then can the the main question be answered of whether the aid for any project produces a good return in British orders and jobs. That is how Pergau should be judged.

BY PETER RIDDELL

Turncoat Tories put faith in Blair

JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR made a final effort yesterday to woo disaffected Tory voters in Dudley West as an opinion poll showed Labour to be 55 points ahead in the run-up to tomorrow's by-election.

The Labour leader, on his second visit to the West Midlands constituency, met a group of former Tory supporters who intend to switch to Labour tomorrow. Mr Blair said that he "could not perform miracles" in changing the country's fortunes but would try to "make a start".

With a poll in the Birmingham *Evening Mail* putting Labour at 71 per cent, the Tories on 16 and the Liberal Democrats on 11, Labour looks certain to win comfortably. Mr Blair, however, made clear that there should be no complacency.

At the Summerhill Hotel on the outskirts of Dudley, he questioned eight Tory defectors about why they had changed their mind. Although they treated him with almost religious reverence, they were clearly disillusioned with the Tories rather than attracted by Labour policies.

Joy Round, 67, the sister of the late Joe Kinsey, who was Tory MP for Birmingham Perry Bar, said that the Tories had been in office too long. "They have become very arrogant. They are out of touch with the ordinary people."

The others cited VAT on fuel and job insecurity as reasons for switching parties. But Mr Blair looked increasingly nervous as the group spoke of a lawless society and called for tougher sentences for criminals who were being allowed to "get away with murder".

Pauline Williams, 51, a former company director, was convinced that Mr Blair would be the country's saviour. "We are hoping you are going to answer everyone's prayers for us," she said.

A slightly embarrassed Mr Blair responded: "It's a heavy responsibility. People don't expect miracles but they expect us to make a start."

☐ *The result at the 1992 general election: J.G. Blackburn (C) 34,729; K.J. Lomax (Lab) 28,940; G.P.T. Lewis (LD) 7,446 (Conservative majority: 5,789)*

Clarke raises prospect of cutting duty on alcohol

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND ALICE THOMSON

THE Chancellor hinted at reducing the price of alcohol in the long term yesterday as he disclosed that smuggling of drink and tobacco is costing the Exchequer £65 million a year.

The shortfall is on top of the estimated £200 million of duty lost every year from "booze cruises" in which cross-Channel shoppers stock up for personal consumption.

Kenneth Clarke made clear to MPs that he had been reluctant to put up duty on wine, beer and spirits in his mini-Budget last week. He was sympathetic to the problems of the drinks industry and it had not been his "preferred choice". But after the VAT defeat he had been left with no alternative.

He held out the prospect of price cuts in the long run by underlining his commitment to a closer approximation of excise duties in the European Union in the second round of talks due to start next year.

Mr Clarke was replying to John Townend, the chairman of the backbench Tory finance committee, who warned of the threat to the drinks industry. Mr Townend said: "Inevitably, if we are going to have any success on that [approximating EU duties] at some stage the British Government is going to have to reduce our duties. We can't expect the problem will be solved just by the other countries putting the duties up to our level."

The talks — part of the implementation of the single market — will centre on the EU's minimum levels of excise duty, which are far below those applying in the UK. For instance, the EU minimum level of duty for wine is zero compared with £140 a hectolitre in Britain.

The talks might lead to Britain lowering its duties — which could boost the sales volumes of Continental beer and wine producers — while other countries raised theirs, which would help to protect domestic producers from what they regard as unfair competition.

Think-tank refused charity status

BY JONATHAN PRYNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE rivalry between two Tory European think-tanks erupted into open warfare yesterday after one of the groups had its application for charitable status turned down.

Tory Euro-sceptics could hardly contain their glee after the pro-Brussels Action Centre for Europe (ACE) was told by the Charity Commission that it would have to prove it was a non-political body before its application could be accepted.

ACE was set up this year to counter the highly effective campaigning of the Euro-sceptic European Foundation, headed by Bill Cash, the Tory MP for Stafford. Charitable status would have allowed donors to make tax-free contributions.

Mr Cash complained to the Charity Commission about the application that ACE "would be dedicated to campaigning for closer European integration". He said ACE was living in a "fool's paradise" if it thought it could convince the Commission it was not politically motivated.

Michael Welsh, chief executive of ACE, said: "I am very flattered that the European Foundation is going to such lengths to screw up our act. Perhaps that suggests we are a rather more formidable group than they're letting on."

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: In the Commons, questions to Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, and the Prime Minister were followed by a debate on the changes to the Budget announced by Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, last week. Mr Clarke opened for the Government and Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, responded for the Opposition. The Speaker, Betty Boothroyd, also made a statement on last Friday's trespass into the office of Tony Blair, the Leader of the Opposition.

In the Lords, the second day of the committee stage of the Agricultural Tenancies Bill was completed.

TODAY: In the Commons, Foreign Office questions will be followed by consideration of the Rating and Valuation orders and a debate on Common Fisheries Policy. The debate will be opened by Michael Jack, Agriculture Minister of State, and Gavin Strang, Shadow Agriculture Minister.

In the Lords, there will be debate on the preparation and passage of legislation. There will also be a debate on disablement, initiated by the Tory peer Lord Campbell of Croy.

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Tanzania enforces ban on hunting of stray elephants

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

TANZANIAN wildlife authorities agreed yesterday to ban the stalking of elephants that stray into areas along the border with Kenya after revelations that three semi-tame bulls from Kenya were shot, as they crossed the frontier recently, by white hunters.

Conservation sources in Kenya said yesterday that Mohidin Ndolanga, the head of Tanzania's Wildlife Department, had telephoned David Western, the director of Kenya Wildlife Services, to give an assurance that the hunting would be banned after a report of the killings appeared in *The Times* yesterday.

He also launched an investigation into why licences were issued to Northern Hunting Enterprises to shoot non-indigenous elephants in the Longido game control area, which runs alongside Kenya's Amboseli National Park.

"The shooting of these elephants by the hunters is simply shameful, although it was not illegal because they were of the correct size and were in Tanzanian territory," Mr Ndolanga said yesterday.

Tanzania's hunting business is under the scrutiny of a parliamentary inquiry after established professional hunters and other conservationists complained about rampant corruption in the game department which is responsible for issuing licences.

The sale of the elephant licences, each costing $4,000 (£2,560) in Arusha, is certain to be investigated and will embarrass the Tanzanian Wildlife Department because it violated a long-established understanding with the Nairobi authorities that animals normally resident in Kenya, where hunting is banned and poachers are shot on sight, would not be shot in Tanzania.

RBG, the only elephant that Kenyan experts have been able to identify by name, was killed two miles inside Tanzania during a hunt organised by Rick Trappe, a German Tanzanian. Two others, feared to be M10 and Sleepy, in their early fifties, like RBG, have also been shot by Mr Trappe's company, but by clients being guided by Geoff Broome, a Zimbabwean.

Mr Ndolanga refused yesterday to disclose the names or nationalities of the customers, who will have paid about £32,000 each for their 21-day safari. The clients are allowed, under international law, to keep the tusks of their elephant quarries as trophies while their carcasses will be left to scavenging animals. Under Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) rules, they are not allowed to sell the tusks.

Emanuel Severre, a senior Tanzanian wildlife official, said yesterday that the issue for the authorities was not the legality of the elephant killings but the ethics. "Elephants of this size, seen in an area where they are not normally found, should have been protected, not shot. Properly qualified hunters know what game to expect in their blocks [areas] and what is unusual."

Geoffrey Wheatcroft, page 18
Leading article, page 19

Human expansion threatens survival

THE debate on wildlife conservation reflects the urgency of finding a solution to the conundrum of human populations expanding at the expense of shrinking spaces for animals (Sam Kiley writes).

Ms Holly Dublin, who chairs the African Elephant Specialists Group, said: "Every African country is evolving its own agenda. For some this means the total annihilation of wildlife in favour of intensive farming. For others this means absolute protection."

South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia allow hunting, and are behind moves to end the ban in elephant products, apart from ivory. The effort was stymied by protectionist groups who argued during a recent meeting of the International convention on Trade in Endangered Species that the time was not yet ripe to open trade in elephants, since populations were decimated during the 1970s and 1980s.

Of the main wildlife countries, only Kenya has an outright ban on hunting, which others see as an essential source of revenue that can be ploughed back into communities so that they come to regard animals as resources worth protecting, rather than competitors for farm land.

Rhinoceroses have been so heavily poached that their survival is threatened.



Bill Bedford, left, a hunter with a client in the Dande area of northwest Tanzania, works to conserve elephant herds

Thrill lies in the chase, insists expert

BY SAM KILEY

OFTEN explained as a natural instinct derived from early man's bushman-like hunter-gatherer existence, the 20th-century hunting of animals such as elephants, lions, cheetahs and leopards, strikes many Europeans as the worst excess of misplaced male machismo.

However, Robin Hurt, one of East Africa's leading professional hunters, says: "The kill is often an anti-climax. It is the chance of the chase which counts. The danger, being out in the bush, the drama of the tracking. One does not hunt to kill, one kills to have hunted."

He has complained vigorously about a recent sharp increase in the number of professional hunters allowed to operate in Tanzania, many of whom, he says, are not qualified. He also refuses to hunt elephants there because he does not believe there are enough to justify culling big bulls.

"There is simply no point in going into the bush and shooting an animal from the back of a car, or of shooting an endangered animal. That is neither sporting, fun, nor ecologically sustainable," he says.

His last client, a millionaire American who spends an average of £32,000 a year on three-week safaris, did not fire a shot during his latest visit. "He did not see anything that was worth it," he says. "The whole point for him, and many others, is to be in remote areas where there are no other people, and to have an adventure. Often clients have the game in their sights, and then decide they won't shoot."

Like many other white hunters and their customers, he sees himself as a conservationist. He says that by generating income from Africa's wildlife and keeping the number of visitors down he achieves environmental protection.

"By ploughing some of the revenue back into the communities who live alongside the wildlife you ensure that they see it as a resource and protect it. This is the only way that it will be possible to sustain national parks alongside exploding human populations. In addition, in areas that are hunted there are very few tourists because hunters pay so much, and therefore they don't tear up the bush with minibus tyres."

Ethiopia's rule of terror 'claimed 1,905 lives'

Addis Ababa: Judges charging Ethiopia's former Marxist rulers at the start of their mass trial yesterday read out a catalogue of 1,905 killings the former junta are accused of ordering during a 17-year rule of terror that included the murder of Emperor Haile Selassie (Our Foreign Staff writes). About 66 members of the Derg military junta that seized power in the 1974 revolution are accused of genocide and crimes against humanity, although the exiled former President Mengistu is being tried in absentia.

The dictator, who fled to Zimbabwe as guerrillas closed in on the capital three years ago, is the most wanted man on the list of accused who could face the death penalty if found guilty. The ousted dictator said in Zimbabwe that his trial in absentia would not be fair, and to go to Ethiopia to fight charges of crimes against humanity would be "suicide".

By the time court was adjourned, the Derg members had been charged with some 241 murders, including the executions of Emperor Haile Selassie and 60 of his closest ministers, and members of his aristocracy. Out of the 12 politburo members charged, only eight were in the dock.

Namibia poll results rejected

Johannesburg: What looked like an easy election victory for President Nujoma of Namibia was suddenly derailed after the announcement of results was stopped by an opposition protest over irregularities (Michael Hamlyn writes).

Mishake Muyongo, the leader of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, applied yesterday for an urgent court injunction against the release of results, reserved the right not to accept them, and demanded a full investigation.

According to preliminary figures, the alliance was badly beaten by the ruling South-West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) of Mr Nujoma. Judge Johan Strydom, chairman of the electoral commission, said more people had voted in the four northernmost constituencies than there were registered voters. "It may be innocent or it may be something irregular," he said. An inquiry would be held.

NEWS IN BRIEF

40 held over sect killings

Avignon: French police yesterday arrested about 40 people with alleged links to the Solar Temple sect, which has been the focus of a murder investigation since the deaths in October of 53 of its members in Switzerland and Canada.

The police said they carried out raids in Brittany, the Paris area and in Carpentras region of southern France. In the Carpentras raid, police officers from Avignon and Montpellier arrested 15 people. The arrests were an outcome of a legal suit over the deaths of three members of a French family in the mass killing.

Among those held is Dr Christian-Marie Le Gall, a medical practitioner described as an associate of Luc Jouret, the sect's guru, who was among the dead. *(AP)*

HIV verdict

Auckland: Peter Mwai, 29, a Kenyan, faces up to 12 years in jail in New Zealand after being found guilty on charges, including endangering life, relating to having unprotected sex knowing that he was HIV-positive. *(Reuter)*

Pinay tribute

Paris: The French parliament observed a minute's silence for Antoine Pinay, the former Prime Minister and father of the "new franc" in 1960, who has died, aged 102. *(Reuter)*

Obituary, page 21

Tapie move

Paris: Bernard Tapie, the French businessman and politician, said a second company of his had filed for bankruptcy to try to save his 17th-century Paris mansion from sale at auction. *(AFP)*

Lethal cocktail

Luanda: Police said that more than 50 people died in the Angolan capital in two weeks after they had drunk home-made "whiskey" laced with methyl alcohol, an increasingly popular tipple. *(AP)*

Gorilla death

Nairobi: A rare Rwandan mountain gorilla named Mkono was killed by a mine blast in the northwest of the country, a victim of the civil war there, the African Wildlife Foundation said. *(AFP)*



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Serbs target Brcko strip as crucial objective

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AS THE United Nations and Nato agonise about whether to leave Bosnia-Herzegovina to its own destructive devices, General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb leader, is probably planning one of the most decisive battles of the war.

The Serbs' weakest point in Bosnia is near Brcko, along the thin sliver of land that links their territory in eastern and western Bosnia. The corridor — barely a mile wide in places and 12 miles long — is sandwiched between the Croatian border and Muslim-Croat federation territory. General Mladic will be tempted to try to widen the corridor by seizing more federation land to avoid the risk of Serb territory being split in two.

His decision on whether and when to begin the battle largely depends on how the international community acts in the next few weeks. After the in-fighting between America and Europe about whether to intensify air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs, there are signs that Nato and the UN are unsure about whether to pull peacekeepers out of the former Yugoslav republic. Meanwhile, the Contact Group race is on to find a peace deal before America renews its campaign to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia's Muslims. If the right mix of threats and promises can be found to persuade the Bosnian Serbs to say "yes" to the peace plan, the battle around Brcko might at least be postponed. However, a long-term solution to the Serb bottleneck must still be found.

The Serbs' military strategy follows a familiar pattern: they bombard a town into submission, a ceasefire is declared, and heavy weapons are pulled back. The UN polices the truce, effectively maintaining the military status quo, and the Serbs move on to their next objective. Brcko will not be so easy for the Serbs. General Mladic uses classic Warsaw Pact tactics: bombardment from hills with heavy artillery, followed by tanks moving in with men and machinegums to consolidate their hold. But the land near Brcko is flat, and the Bosnian Government has been supplied with large quantities of anti-tank weapons since the Muslim-Croat alliance was formed earlier this year.

In what may be a significant move, the Bosnian Serbs ejected all nine UN military observers from Brcko when the world's attention was focused on Bihac, robbed them, and took them to Belgrade, the capital of Serbia.

"This is an extreme setback," a UN spokesman said in Zagreb. "This is a very important area and now we do not know what is happening." With the first snows of winter falling, the UN's inability to monitor the area will cause severe problems. A Bosnian Government source said: "Our aim is not to cut the corridor now, but to keep an eye on it until the spring."

Anthony Borden, the director of the London-based Institute for War and Peace Reporting, said: "Brcko remains the main problem for the Serbs, but they have too many stretched lines at the moment and would probably prefer to wait until the spring to widen the corridor."



Bosnian Serb soldiers keep Muslim troop positions under observation outside the western Bosnian town of Bosanska Krupa, situated in the Bihac enclave

UN food convoy enters Sarajevo as siege blockade eased

Sarajevo: Bosnian Serb forces yesterday allowed a UN food convoy with an armoured escort to enter Sarajevo, apparently lifting a ban on peacekeepers escorting relief deliveries in armoured vehicles.

A Danish relief convoy of nine trucks drove past Serb checkpoints into the city, escorted by two French armoured personnel carriers, said Kris Janowski of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. "The Danish convoy got through with an escort without any problems. This means there is no problem with escorts," he said. The trucks were carrying 112 tonnes of rice and flour to a UNHCR warehouse in the city centre. Danish drivers said they met no problems as they crossed Serb territory around Sarajevo.

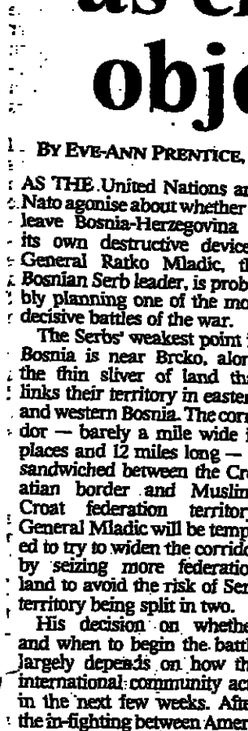
But a Bangladeshi UN peacekeeping soldier died yesterday after being wounded when his armoured car was hit by a rocket fired by suspected rebel Serbs in the town of Velika Kladusa, inside the Bosnian Muslim enclave of Bihac. He was one of five hurt in Monday's attack and had been evacuated to a hospital near the Croatian capital, Zagreb.

The UN condemned the attack as "one of the most flagrant, deliberate and calculated assaults" on its peacekeepers since they arrived in Bosnia more than two years ago.

The arrival of the Sarajevo convoy was at least one sign that Bosnian Serbs were fulfilling a promise to UN officials to grant freedom of movement to the UN Protection Force. Bosnian Serb troops besieging Sarajevo and eastern Muslim enclaves have blocked regular fuel deliveries to UN troops and detained about 500 peacekeepers in retaliation for Nato airstrikes against Serb targets last month.

One fuel convoy was allowed into Sarajevo on Monday for the first time in three weeks. The Danish food convoy arrived a day after Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the UN Commander in Bosnia, met Bosnian Serb authorities in Pale, outside Sarajevo.

The UN has been rationing fuel in Sarajevo and besieged eastern enclaves, where peacekeepers are patrolling on foot and planning to use mules as pack animals. UN commanders had to scale back peacekeeping operations and some anti-sniping patrols because of fuel shortages. *(Reuter)*



Muslim chiefs set to defy arms ban

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MUSLIM leaders from 51 Islamic states yesterday hinted that they are ready to defy the international arms embargo in order to bolster fellow Muslim fighters in Bosnia.

Meeting in Casablanca for the seventh summit of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the leaders, who include kings, presidents and prime ministers, appeared ready to follow the lead of their foreign ministers who declared the embargo null and void and said their Governments were now ready to arm the Bosnian Muslims in their battle against the Serbs.

A resolution submitted to the summit said that the foreign ministers' preliminary meeting expressed readiness "to co-operate with all United Nations member states who exhibit a willingness on their own initiative to provide the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina with the means for self-defence."

However despite widespread criticism of Western "appeasement" of the Serbs, several influential countries insisted they would not break ranks with the United Nations. Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Saudi Foreign Minister, said his country would continue to co-operate with Europe and the UN on Bosnia.

The summit also appeared ready to take the first concerted step in the Muslim world to reduce the influence of "fundamentalist" Muslim activists who have increasingly projected a hostile view of Islam to the West.

A resolution was passed by the foreign ministers on Tuesday which committed the OIC members to ensure that militant groups did not use their territory for planning operations in other states. This resolution was not opposed even by countries such as Iran, Sudan and Afghanistan which have been widely condemned in the West for supporting radical extremist groups.

The main sponsors of the motion were Algeria, Tunisia and Egypt, countries which are fighting violent campaigns by Islamic militants.

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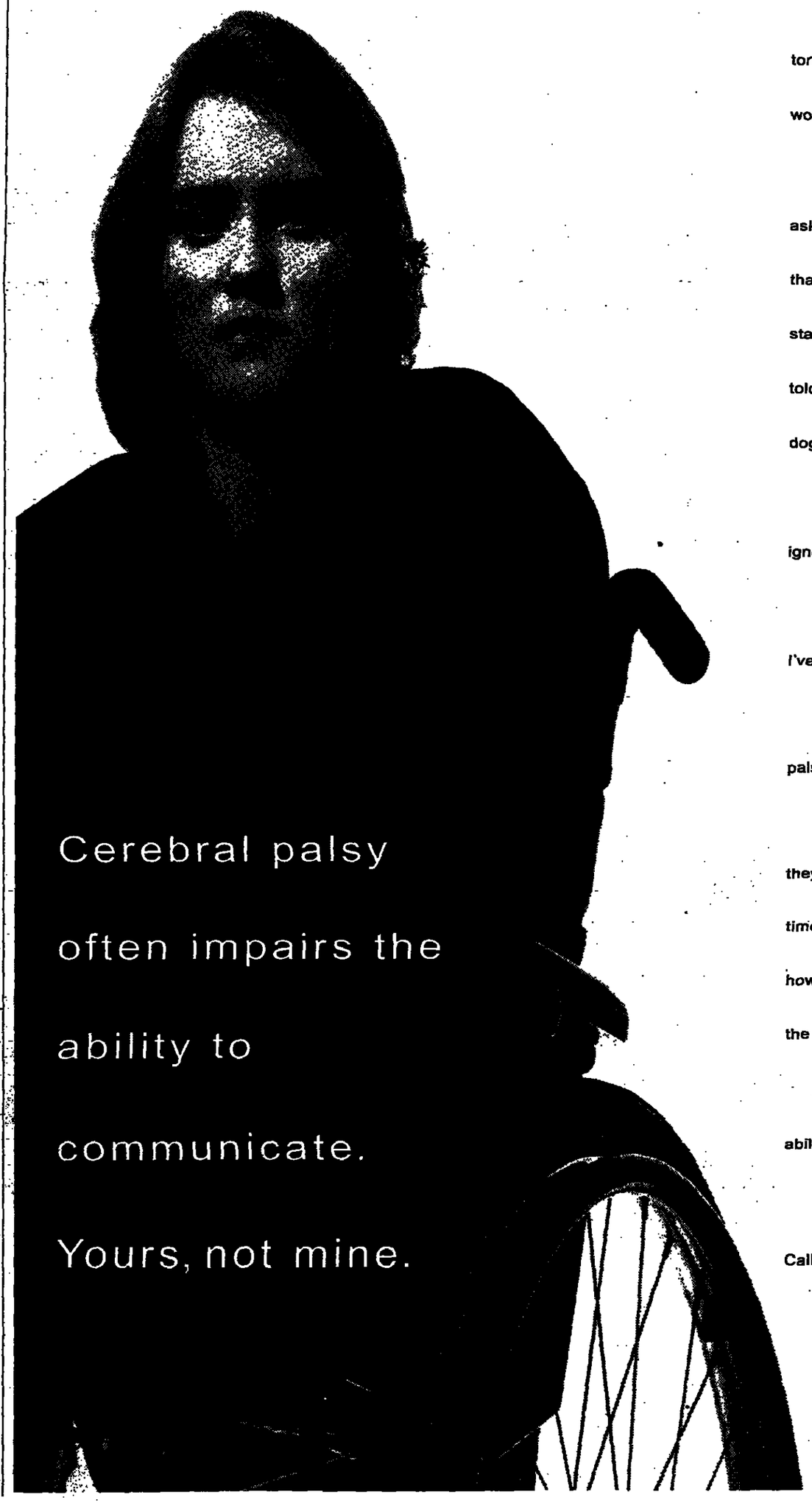
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Dudayev's raggle-taggle army musters to beat back the might of Russia



FROM ANATOL LIEVEN
IN PERVOMAISKOYE

TEN miles north of Grozny, the Chechen capital, lies the village of Pervomaiskoye, the scene yesterday of a fierce rocket attack by Russian jets and helicopter gunships.

The village, located directly on the Chechen second line, is an old Cossack settlement, *though most of the Russian* population left in the past three years under Chechen pressure. The remainder expressed *furious bitterness* both against President Yeltsin and the Chechen leader, General Dzhokhar Dudayev.

The local Chechen commander, Isa Dolkayed, said: "We are not professional soldiers: we are a people's army. Last week, all the men here were farmers or workers. But there is not a man here who will not stand his ground to the death."

The number of regular Dudayev regime forces is tiny. Most estimates number them at barely more than 1,000. Yesterday morning, these small groups of Chechen defenders seemed almost lost in the sea of white *mist* covering Chechenia and confusing the Russian *invaders*.

The regular forces are supplemented by considerable numbers of "people's volunteers", *like most of Colonel* Dolkayed's men. Most Chechen men have some type of gun. At Pervomaiskoye, they came in *all shapes and* sizes and all kinds of dress, from weather-beaten local peasants to smooth-faced Chechen "businessmen" from Russia.

One such businessman, Salaq Adigov, said that he had *come back two months* ago to fight for Chechenia, and had bought his own Kalashnikov rifle, pistol and grenades in Grozny's large arms bazaar.

The volunteer units are usually formed from the same area and choose their commanders from people with local prestige or military experience. Some, like Colonel Dolkayed, are former Soviet junior officers or NCOs.

Apart from the volunteers, *there a few Chechen regular* units, though the number of troops is far smaller than the grand title of "regiments" and "*battalions*" *would suggest*. Military discipline is also largely absent and comes and goes as easily as the people's *volunteers. These units in*clude Omon, a former Soviet special police, a "mountain infantry regiment", and armoured regiment, with a handful of heavy tanks, and "Spetsnaz" or commando battalions.

But the *Chechens like to* add some personal bits of display like the Homeric heroes of antiquity whom they resemble in their courage, their boasting, their indiscipline, their touches of chivalry and bursts of savagery.

The deputy commander of the Spetsnaz is Captain Omar Chafakonov, an immense bearded figure. Many of his men wear a green band over their woolly hats: the Chechen Muslim tradition indicating *that they are determined* to fight to the death for Islam. The tradition goes back to the Chechen wars against Russia *in the 19th century*.

Finally, there is the presidential guard, the best armed and worst reputed of all the Chechen units. The Chechen opposition says that it is largely made up of professional criminals rewarded *with the fruits of government* corruption.

An old man in the opposition stronghold of Tolstoy-Yurt *said that* "for three years the presidential guard have been coming here and demanding cars, money, food. They say it is for Chechen independence, but of course it is just for them."

This then is the force that is facing with some success the Russian army, on paper at least, still one of the strongest fighting forces in the world. The Chechens' stubborn courage has already slowed them down badly and inflicted a humiliation on their giant enemy from which President Yeltsin may never recover.

Chechenia conflict holds key to fate of Moscow leaders

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

AS BATTLES between Russian troops and Chechen fighters intensified in the northern Caucasus yesterday a fierce confrontation was developing between Russian politicians in Moscow that could decide the country's leadership.

In only three days, since Russian troops were ordered into Chechenia, the Russian political landscape has been redrawn with old alliances broken up and new pacts being formed. It is now widely accepted in Russian political circles that President Yeltsin's decision to use force to reimpose the Kremlin's rule in the breakaway state was the biggest gamble of his three-year administration and could decide who will lead the country into the next century.

Put crudely, if the Russian military succeeds in ousting *the rebel Chechen leadership* of General Dzhokhar Dudayev, or at least intimidate him into submission, the *Russian leader's prestige will* be fully restored. If the operation goes badly and his soldiers spark a bloody conflict, he may never recover.

Yesterday the Duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, voted overwhelmingly in favour of a resolution accusing the Government of failing to reach a political settlement to the Chechen conflict and urging the Kremlin to do everything in its power to halt the fighting.

The most damaging political repercussion for the Russian leader so far has been the harshly critical line taken by his traditional supporters in the democratic bloc and in particular, the stinging personal attack by his former Prime Minister, Yegor Gaidar.

The former reform chief, who heads the Democratic Choice of Russia party, has called the military operation "controlled bloodletting" and even suggested that the action was taken to help to improve the military's image and secure the army a bigger slice of next year's budget.

Mr Gaidar had stood by the President loyally for the past *three years, when the political* debate in Russia was dominated by the question of economic and political reform. Now, *however, with the central* question of national security and nationalism at stake, he has parted company with President Yeltsin.

His campaign has attracted a number of supporters, from Grigori Yavlinksy, the leader of the liberal Yabloko party, to Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet leader and even Gennadi Zuganov, the Communist party boss, all of them hopefuls in the presidential race.

"This all strongly reminds me of the October events," said Mr Zuganov, recalling last year's bloody attack on the White House in Moscow when Russian troops put down an uprising by parliament. "The difference is that in October they sealed off parliament and then shelled it, while this time they repeat the scheme with the whole republic."

Emil Pain, a member of the Presidential Council, warned yesterday that the political impact of the Chechen crisis could reignite the feud between the Kremlin and parliament.

"We are moving towards confrontation between a large *number* of deputies on one side and the executive branch of power on the other," he said. "The consequences may be *really grave, namely* another round of conflict which threatens to result in the disintergration of Russia."

However, some *Russian* political leaders have hegded their positions over the Chechen conflict. Boris Fyodorov, the liberal former Finance Minister, has backed the incursion but criticised the military competence of General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister.

Surprisingly the ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky, who heads the Liberal Democratic party and never shies away from defending Russia's right to its imperial land, has given only muted support to the military operation. *He has doubtless calcu*lated that if the mission backfires, he will still be able to make some political capital from it.

The Chechen conflict is also likely to decide the fate of some key figures in the Russian Government, particularly *General Grachev, the loyal* Yeltsin defence chief who has been accused of running a corrupt and incompetent armed forces. If the attack goes wrong, his political career will almost certainly be over. Also, the crisis has finally established the real *stand of Andrei Kozyrev, the* Russian Foreign Minister, once regarded by the West as a sympathetic pro-democrat. Now, *in the space of only a few* months, he has transformed himself into a tough nationalist who supports the Serbs, Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader, *and who opposes* Nato's expansion.

"If there is no disarmament in Chechnia, the Russian state *will be obliged to use as much* force as is required to establish order," said the former liberal.



Chechen soldiers armed with anti-tank grenade launchers heading for the Grozny front line yesterday as Russian troops advanced

Romania moves to placate workers

FROM REUTER IN BUCHAREST

ROMANIAN oil industry workers said yesterday that they would stage a lightning two-hour warning strike tomorrow in protest at new wage control laws.

The Petrom trade union, claiming more than 100,000 members in the oil extraction industry, said in a statement that it was opening a "collective labour conflict" with the minority left-wing Government of Nicolae Vacaroiu, the Prime Minister.

He flew to western Romania yesterday to intervene in mass protests by disgruntled workers five years after the end of communism.

In a terse statement, the Government said that Mr Vacaroiu and his Industry Minister had flown to Resita for talks with unions and managers of the town's steel mill and heavy machinery plant on how to "redress the economic situation".

Thousands of workers have been on its streets for more than a week protesting over unpaid wages and the economic malaise in Romania *since the 1989 revolution* toppled the dictator, Nicolae Ceausescu, who conceived industrial towns such as Resita.

While there is no suggestion that the Resita protests will *spiral into the size of the* demonstrations that sparked the 1989 revolution, the Government wants to avoid a repeat of riots by miners that brought down the first democratically elected administration in 1990. Labour unrest *shows some evidence of* spreading from the town.

Nordic chiefs face fierce grilling on Europe

FROM GEORGE BROCK
IN BRUSSELS

John Major, like most Prime Ministers, has discovered that European Union summitry is more relaxing than answering questions from bobbing backbenchers in the Commons.

As he reported to MPs about the Essen summit on Monday, the shock of leaving the consensual Christmas-party atmosphere created by Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and re-entering the lions' den at Westminster was patent.

"Prime Ministers elsewhere, they don't find themselves subject to the same rigorous questioning in their parliaments as we do," he said. "Indeed, . . . some of my fellow heads of government could scarcely find their way to their *national parliaments with a* guide dog." This democratic superiority has been a private and public refrain of British



González: lofty disdain for Cortes questions

ministers for the past two or *three years. Mr Major and his* colleagues have chuckled at the spectacle of continental governments squirming to justify the tortured phrasing of the Maastricht treaty, negotiated in secret and with precious little debate at the time in most EU countries.

But the Prime Minister's lofty jibe is only half true. From next month, when Sweden, Finland and Austria join, the EU will include at least three parliaments whose scrutiny of what ministers get up to in Brussels is tougher than anything seen in London.

*Mr Major's most likely tar*get was Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister. Señor González did indeed ac*quire a reputation for largely* ignoring the Cortes until he was forced by public pressure to start a version of question *time every Wednesday after*noon. Since most of the questions concern corruption, however, he tends to dismiss *them as impertinent*.

Even where ministers do face regular questioning in parliament, in Germany or the Benelux states, the style is less rigorous because their constitutions work differently. Each of these countries elects MPs by proportional representation, producing chambers split more or less as the electorate has voted. That in turn generates coalitions whose balance and breadth discourage hostile cross-examination. The powers-that-be include almost everybody who matters.

Belgium is ruled by a four-party Cabinet that includes ministers *from the Christian Democrat* and Socialist parties and is drawn from the French and Flemish-speaking areas. The *last topic on which a Belgian* Prime Minister expects hostile questions is Europe: faith in a federal Europe is a public *religion. The political classes* in Belgium and Luxembourg have stayed solidly behind the dream of a united Europe. Belgian Euro-sceptics remain as rare as nudists at the North Pole.

However, European government systems can still allow public feelings to be expressed with force. The toughest system of accountability on European policy anywhere in the EU is run by the Danish parliament. The power to negotiate in Brussels is effectively shared between the "market committee" of MPs and the ministers who attend councils in Brussels. The committee lays down the freedom of manoeuvre that *each minister may have at* each meeting before setting off from Copenhagen.

Sweden and Finland bring *with them similar* oversight rules. Public inspection of politicians' conduct in Scandinavia goes much further than *in Britain*: Swedish voters even have the right to inspect their Prime Minister's correspondence.

Couture's secret death

FROM CHARLES BREMNER
IN PARIS

IN SOMETHING of a record even for reclusive celebrities, it has been disclosed that Mme Grès, the legendary Paris couturière and Coco Chanel's *former rival, died* last year, aged 90.

Anne Grès, the couturière's daughter, had suppressed the news of her death in a Riviera nursing home. In a bitter statement yesterday, she explained that she had acted out of love to protect her mother because she had been abandoned and betrayed by the elite of the fashion world.

She also had no money to pay for a grave, she added. "Mummy departed in silence, as she had always lived . . . one day she decided to die and refused to eat."

Obituary, page 21

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Clinton to finance tax cuts by attack on bureaucracy

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

WITH a new poll showing that his approval rating has slumped to 38 per cent, President Clinton will seek to revive his presidency tomorrow with an Oval Office address to the nation promising middle-class tax cuts financed in part by wholesale reductions in the federal bureaucracy.

In a measure of Mr Clinton's diminished stature, however, the four big television networks were uncertain yesterday whether they would bother broadcasting the speech. Some commentators were comparing it to Jimmy Carter's ill fated attempt to salvage his presidency with his famous 1979 address blaming his political misfortunes on the nation's spiritual "malaise".

In 1992 Mr Clinton secured one of the biggest tax increases in American history as he battled to reduce the federal deficit. But since his party's rout in last month's congressional elections he has moved rapidly back to the political centre and jumped firmly on to the tax-cutting bandwagon, even though the booming economy needs no extra stimulus.

The Republicans have promised to seek a $500-a-week (£320) tax cut for families with incomes of up to $200,000 after they take control of Congress next month, a step that would cost an estimated $110 billion over five years. Richard Gephardt, the Democrats' House leader, proposed cuts yesterday for families earning less than $75,000, and in doing so signalled that congressional Democrats now plan to operate independently of their President.

Mr Clinton cannot offer tax cuts nearly as big as the Republicans' without undermining his own deficit-reduction achievements, but instead is expected to target his cuts on "average working families" with incomes below $100,000 while attacking the Republican proposals as more tax breaks for the rich.

The President has cleared his schedule for the week so that he can focus on ways to finance cuts that are expected to cost about $50 billion over the next five years. Social programmes such as Medicare will probably be pared back, but Mr Clinton is also contemplating the radical restructuring, or abolition, of either the Energy or Housing departments and across-the-board reductions throughout the Government.

In the meantime, the national Democratic Party is facing a financial crisis, with a total post-election debt of about $5 million. While money is pouring into the Republicans' coffers, contributions to the Democrats have dried up. Richard Dennis, a wealthy Chicagoan who has given the Democrats more than $1 million over the past five years, said that he and other big Democratic fund-raisers wanted Mr Clinton off the ticket in 1996.

Paul Tsongas, the former Democrat Senator who challenged Mr Clinton for the 1992 presidential nomination, called yesterday for the creation of a socially inclusive, fiscally conservative third party led by a man with moral authority such as Colin Powell, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In a separate development, Senate Republicans unveiled a plan to revise drastically and reduce America's foreign aid programmes. Mitch McConnell, the Senator who will chair the Foreign Appropriations Sub-committee, wants to make further assistance to Russia conditional on Moscow's non-interference with its neighbours, to target foreign aid on areas of the Middle East and Europe where America has direct interests, and slash aid to Africa that "subsidises failure".

He would abolish the Agency for International Development, give the State Department control of the independent Peace Corps and end American support for international population-control programmes. The total aid budget of $13.7 billion would shrink. Jesse Helms, next chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has said that one of his priorities will be to stop taxpayers' dollars being poured down "foreign ratholes".

□ **Convention city:** San Diego, California, was nominated yesterday as the site for the Republican presidential nominating convention in 1996. If the selection is confirmed in January, it will be the first time the city has been host to either party's national convention. *(Reuter)*

President gains Castro's support

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

HIS popularity at home may have plummeted to an all-time low but President Clinton yesterday received support from a strange ally — Fidel Castro, the *bête noire* of American presidents.

In a rare interview with a US newspaper, the Cuban leader asked how it was that the American public had delivered such a resounding defeat to their President last month. Mr Clinton, he said, appeared to have such an attractive social agenda when he was elected, but now the Republicans had returned, with their traditional antagonism towards his country.

"The Chinese wanted Bush to win, the Russians wanted Bush to win, the Mexicans wanted Bush to win," Mr Castro told *The New York Times*. "But we hope he [Mr Clinton] is successful."

Dr Castro appeared to have forgotten that even as a candidate, Bill Clinton was a firm proponent of tightening the long-standing trade embargo against Cuba. This summer the American leader had imposed further sanctions against the Caribbean nation as a reprisal for the 30,000 refugees Dr Castro allowed to flood the Florida Straits.

The Summit of the Americas had just ended in Miami when Dr Castro, the only leader not invited, gave his views during a four-hour conversation at a long dining table in the Palace of the Revolution in Havana.

"If the summit of Miami was a great show, it would have been a better show if I had been there," he said. "We are the last rebels."



Sophia Loren, 60, arriving at the world première of *Prêt-A-Porter* in New York. The film, by Robert Altman, takes a satirical look at the fashion industry, with some of Hollywood's most famous actors starring alongside genuine designers

Tax team questions premier

Milan: Silvio Berlusconi, the Italian Prime Minister, yesterday faced nearly eight hours of gruelling interrogation by Milan magistrates, "with head held high and sure of myself", about allegations that he had bribed tax inspectors (John Phillips writes).

He was then questioned at length by the Milan Chief Procurator, Francesco Saverio Borrelli, and two veteran prosecutors of the "Clean Hands" team. The Prime Minister, accompanied by his lawyers, Giuseppe De Luca and Ennio Amodio, reiterated his protestation of innocence before he *met the* judges. He said that he would tell the magistrates "several very simple and clear things. I have never corrupted anyone, never and under no circumstances."

Rocard 'no' to presidency

Paris: Michel Rocard, the former French Prime Minister and a long-standing rival to President Mitterrand, yesterday ruled himself out as a possible replacement for Jacques Delors, formerly the Socialist front-runner who has now said that he will not stand for the presidency (Charles Bremner writes).

A moderate Socialist in the Delors mould, M Rocard enjoys public support second only to that of Jack Lang, the former Culture Minister, according to a poll after the withdrawal of M Delors, the outgoing President of the European Commission.

"I have already done my bit . . . I don't have the qualities to fit the standard profile of the Socialist Party candidate," M Rocard said.

Gingrich squares up to Mayor Barry

BY TOM RHODES

FEW battles are more likely to stir the imagination of the American political class than the predicted clash over Washington DC between Newt Gingrich, the current arbiter of Republican morality, and Marion Barry, the incoming mayor, who was once jailed for cocaine abuse.

In a bizarre scheme to save the capital from bankruptcy, Mr Barry has led a senior delegation to the finance houses of Wall Street to ask for $250 million (£160 million) to be pumped into the city, which has a budget deficit more than twice that.

At the same time Mr Gingrich, the new Republican Speaker, describing Washington as "a collapsing and extraordinarily self-destructive city", has said that Congress must take charge or, failing that, the District of Columbia should be given to the state of Maryland. He proposes that a panel of residents be set up to advise Congress on how to use federal funds to make Washington "one of the real urban jewels of the planet".

There is little doubt that Republicans are still distressed that their arguments against loose morals and the counterculture failed to prevent the electorate in the capital from again choosing Mr Barry as mayor. Mr Gingrich said the troubled local government in Washington was one of the greatest problems facing Congress which, he emphasised, controlled federal payments to the city and maintained the right to veto its legislation.

"It needs to be faced honestly, but it needs to be faced honestly by the people of this city," he said. "It doesn't do us any good to pick a fight with the new mayor or to avoid a fight with the new mayor. What we need to do is find a way to break out of this struggle."

The financiers of Wall Street remain sceptical about the austerity programme promoted by Mr Barry and have demanded further cuts in spending if they are to service such a large loan for his next term in office. If the brokers fail to offer a solution, political observers say, Mr Gingrich is likely to increase his pressure on the perceived nemesis who will control the very streets his congressional majority walks on.

US plan to hit China revealed

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

AMERICA planned to drop atomic bombs on China if Peking broke the uneasy truce that ended the Korean War in 1953, according to newly-declassified Pentagon documents.

"In light of the enemy capability to launch a massive ground offensive, US air support operations, including use of atomic weapons, will be employed to inflict maximum destruction of enemy forces," said a secret memorandum signed by General Edwin Carns, secretary to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on April 17, 1954.

The plan "does not contemplate a massive atomic strike against Communist territory and its population", the document said. "Rather, it is intended that conventional as well as atomic weapons, as appropriate, will be employed against military targets in Manchuria and China, which are being used by the Communists in direct support of their operations in Korea."

The document, of which only 30 copies were made, was one of 44 million declassified by President Clinton.

Japan suicides highlight school bullying

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

A SECOND Japanese schoolboy killed himself yesterday in a town next to the one where a pupil hanged himself last month after repeated intimidation and harassment by classmates.

News of the second suicide, also blamed on bullying, came as the Japanese Government released a report giving a warning that violent intimidation and extortion among schoolchildren had reached an "all-time high".

The 13-year-old boy, who has not been named, was found hanging in his father's canning factory in the central Japanese town of Okazaki. Police said no note was left and no motive had been identified. However, classmates said that he had been consistently harassed by three older pupils over the last four months. The Education Ministry said yesterday that the earlier suicide of Kiyoteru Okouchi, also 13, of Nishio, on November 27, was "only the tip of the iceberg" of increasingly violent bullying spreading through schools.

Bullying among female and male pupils is regarded as a common syndrome in Japan and has even featured as a theme in television dramas. However, the wide attention drawn to the suicide of Kiyoteru and his poignant suicide note has sparked off a national uproar. "I don't want to die this early in life, but these days they bully me so much and demand so much money that I just can't stand it anymore," the boy wrote in a four-page letter.

After publication of the note, it was revealed that a boy from iyoteru's school had hanged himself in 1988, probably because of bullying. In the past week, many other cases have been reported in the Japanese press.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, a leading daily newspaper, reported a dramatic rise in suicides among pupils in state schools; 177 have been reported so far this year by the Education Ministry, up from 131 in 1993.

The growing controversy over school violence has prompted Tomiichi Murayama, the Prime Minister, to call for a national inquiry. He convened an extraordinary Cabinet meeting yesterday to discuss the issue and urged teachers and parents to join forces to check bullying in schools. An Education Ministry report also urged teachers to pay more attention to the problems of stress and competitive pressure on pupils in Japan's rigid education system.

Three-day lift ordeal

Auckland: Embarrassed Auckland authorities have begun an investigation into how a 69-year-old woman became trapped in a car-park lift for three days. Through all the 67 hours Moira Poor's for help went unanswered. She was without food, water or warm clothing but, on top of that, once she was freed she had to pay a penalty to get her car out because the attendants would not believe that she had been trapped. As she recovered at home, Les Mills, the mayor of the New Zealand city, told television that his council, owners of the building, was clearly in the wrong. *(AFP)*



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Unauthorised	2.00%	24.00%

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Small Business Loan***	0.98%	11.76% (APR 12.4%)*

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†Standard and A Bands have been merged.
*The APR does not take into account any additional charges (eg arrangement fees/securities charges/monthly fees) which may be applicable.
**Also applies to Farm Business Loans. ***Also applies to Farm Small Business Loans.

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£ 50,000+	3.55	3.61
£ 10,000+	3.35	3.40
£ 1,000+	3.05	3.09
Below £1,000	1.25	1.26

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£ 100,000+	4.15	4.19	4.11	4.19
£ 10,000+	3.65	3.68	3.62	3.68
£ 2,500+	3.35	3.38	3.33	3.38
Below £2,500	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	HALF YEARLY OPTION		MONTHLY OPTION	
	GROSS RATE %	GROSS CAR %	GROSS RATE %	GROSS CAR %
£1+	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25

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These rates of interest will apply with effect from 14 December 1994

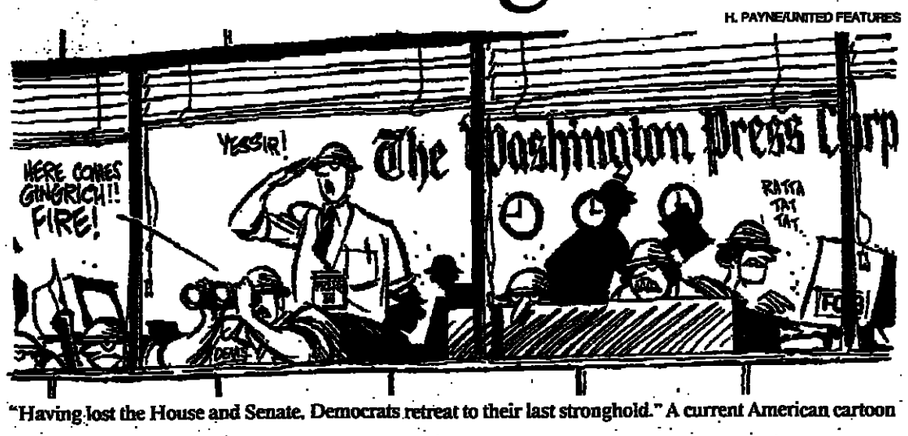
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Martin Fletcher on Washington's struggle to swim with the tide of Republican revolution

Dancing on the liberal grave



"Having lost the House and Senate, Democrats retreat to their last stronghold." A current American cartoon

For 22 years, newly elected congressmen have travelled up to Harvard's Kennedy School of Government for an introductory course on policy-making. This year America's most famous university had to cancel the course for lack of interest. Instead, in a vivid demonstration of how Washington's political culture has been turned inside out by the Republicans' capture of Congress, the 73 new Republicans flocked to Baltimore last weekend for a rival course organised by the conservative Heritage Foundation.

To coin Ross Perot's memorable phrase, the "giant sucking sound" we denizens of Washington have been hearing this last month is of raw power departing the White House for its new home on Capitol Hill. Its passage has left a capital city that is scarcely recognisable. What was in is now out, and what was out is now in.

Can it really be only two years since liberal Harvard sent more than a dozen professors to serve in the Clinton Administration, and the Progressive Policy Institute, founded by Bill Clinton's Democratic Leadership Council, was the think-tank *du jour*? Today it is the Heritage Foundation that is proclaiming itself the Republican revolution's "weapons factory". And it was to the Heritage Foundation that Newt Gingrich delivered his first major speech after becoming America's predominant politician on November 8.

On the night of President Clinton's 1992 inauguration, the hottest ticket in town was for the ball thrown by MTV. Today's most fashionable station — featuring *The Progress Report with Newt Gingrich* and Arianna Stassinopoulos as a chat-show host — is National Empowerment Television, the year-old cable creation of the arch-conservative Paul Weyrich.

Rush Limbaugh, the radio scourge of the Clintons, has suddenly found himself a quasi-official spokesman for the ruling party. The ultra-conservative *Washington Times* and *Wall Street Journal* are fast becoming the establishment newspapers, the liberal *Washington Post* and *New York Times* the official opposition.

James Carville, George Stephanopoulos and all the other young masterminds of Mr Clinton's election victory have briefly flamed and flickered out. Today's strategists to watch are Bill Kristol, the former Quayle adviser, Frank Luntz, the 32-year-old Oxford-educated consultant who helped Mr Gingrich to devise "Contract with America", and a little-known management consultant named Morris Shechtman whom Mr Gingrich has engaged to sell his revolution.

Mr Shechtman's speciality is changing corporate cultures, and he hopes to do the same for America's political culture. His trick is finding more gentle language to explain right-wing goals. Positive discrimination "has created a world in which you can sue to get a job with someone who considers you a turkey", he says. The welfare state is "the most virulent form of racism" and has created "a class of slaves". All social intervention does is "make the intervener feel better".

Charles Murray, the social scientist damned in October for suggesting blacks were genetically less intelligent than whites, is back in favour. So is Edward Teller, the father of the atom bomb and leading "Star Wars" advocate. So is the futurist Alvin Toffler, whose book, *Creating a New Civilisation: The Politics of the Third Wave*, heads Mr Gingrich's reading list for the new Congress.

Political correctness, particularly racial and sexual diversity, is yesterday's fad. The new congressional leadership is composed almost exclusively of Protestant pale males.

Only one Senate and one House committee will have women chairing them. There is scarcely a black or homosexual in sight. One of Mr Gingrich's first acts as Speaker will be to end funding for 28 caucuses, including those for black, female and Hispanic congressmen.

The South is most definitely in, and for once the president from Arkansas is not out of step. Vice-President Al Gore is from Tennessee. Mr Gingrich is from Georgia and his deputy leader, Richard Armey, is a Texan. The Senate's new deputy leader, Trent Lott, comes from Mississippi, leaving Robert Dole of Kansas, the Senate leader, the odd man out.

Southern Republicans have had to use aggressive tactics to establish their beachhead in a region once solidly Democratic, and it shows. Traditional courtliness is out, invective in. Mr Gingrich has described the Clintons as "enemies of the people" and and claimed the White House was rife with drug abusers.

Free condoms for schools are out, school prayer in. Crime prevention has been replaced by detention, and dismantling — not "reinventing" — government is the order of the day. Hollywood's oh-so-socially-concerned Barbra Streisand is also now passé. The Republicans' new pin-up is Mickey Rooney, star of *Boys Town*, the 1938 movie that Mr Gingrich invokes to bolster his case for bringing back orphanages.

How powerful is hypnotism?

Public concern has forced the Home Office to investigate a stage act

Ever since the Austrian physician Anton Mesmer began inducing trance-like states in his patients in the 18th century, argument has raged over the nature of the phenomenon.

Is the hypnotic subject really in a different state of consciousness, or merely playing an elaborate role? By now, we might have hoped to know the answer, but we do not. It is, says Dr Michael Heap of Sheffield University, "the biggest argument in hypnosis".

Dr Heap is the country's only lecturer in clinical hypnosis, and might be expected to welcome any move to make the subject more respectable by clamping down on stage *hypnotists*.

"Stage hypnosis trivialises the subject," he says. "I don't like it at all. But I am not very impressed by the evidence that it is dangerous — that's been overstated. The people who say that it is, want it outlawed, and I see no justification for that."



NIGEL HAWKES

The decision by the Home Office to take a fresh look at stage hypnotism follows a campaign led by the mother of a woman who died hours after being hypnotised. Dr Prem Misra, the Glasgow consultant *psychiatrist and* chairman of the academic committee of the British Society of Mental and Dental Hypnotists, backs the campaign.

He says that stage hypnosis can do lasting emotional and physical damage, and has provided the Scottish Office with evidence based on 18 years' experience of treating victims. "Banning stage hypnotism is up to Parliament," he says, "but, meanwhile, local authorities could impose much tighter guidelines to protect the public."

Dr Misra says the symptoms include headaches, drowsiness, nausea, lack of energy, irritability, fits, the persistence of hypnotic suggestions, spontaneous trances, anxiety, depression and, in some cases full-blown psychosis. One man, for example, became obsessed with eating onions after going on stage and being persuaded that they were Golden Delicious apples — a favourite trick of stage hypnotists. He was eating six to eight raw onions a day and took months to shake off the habit.

The weakness in the argument is that it is impossible to link the symptoms directly to the hypnotism. Dr Heap saw one woman who complained of migraines after being hypnotised. "It turned out that it had happened at an office party, which went on until 1am and where everybody had *had a lot to drink. It's impossible* to prove that the hypnosis was really the cause."

The same applies to the women whose death triggered the campaign against stage hypnotism, Sharron Tabarn. In the Commons, Michael Forsyth, the junior Home Office Minister, said that the coroner had found her death to be due to natural causes unconnected with her having been hypnotised. But her mother, Margaret Harper, who founded the Campaign against Stage Hypnotism, disagrees. "My daughter died after being hypnotised and we will carry on striving for a total ban on stage hypnosis," she said yesterday.

Stage hypnotism is a much more intense experience than medical hypnotism. "The stage hypnotist can select his subjects, and there is also the massive effect of audience expectation, and the influence of the group on the stage," Dr Heap says. He is persuaded by the evidence of Graham Wagstaff, a Liverpool University psychologist, showing that the effects in these cases depend greatly on people's willingness to satisfy *expectations*.

This brings us back to the central, unanswered question in hypnotism. On one side are the "state" theorists who say that the hypnotic state is distinct from other forms of consciousness; on the other, the "non-state" theorists, such as Dr Wagstaff, who say that it depends on the co-operation of the subjects, who sustain the illusion by acting in ways they have learnt by watching others being hypnotised.

Electrical measurements of the brain have been made to try to distinguish between these theories, but the results are open to different interpretations. For most people, Dr Heap says, the hypnotic state is not particularly profound, but is relaxing and liberating to the imagination. He believes that it is useful for treating conditions that are at least partly psychosomatic, such as asthma, insomnia, irritable bowel syndrome, and some forms of persistent pain.

But real understanding is as elusive as it was to the French Royal Commission who examined Mesmer's claims and found them wanting. Whatever his skills, they evidently did not stretch to mesmerising the members of the commission. If today's stage hypnotists are to avoid the heavy hand of the law, they will have to do better than that.

Letters that spell a life of debauchery

Valerie Grove hears the tale behind the story of Madame du Deffand, French socialite and correspondent



PETER TRIEVNOR

Italian author Benedetta Craveri and Lady Teresa Waugh, who translated Craveri's book on Madame du Deffand

Two women sit in a small salon in a hotel not far from Knightsbridge, reflecting on the kind of life women once lived: Lady Teresa Waugh, novelist and wife of Auberon, and Benedetta Craveri, wife of the French ambassador in Prague. What links them is that Benedetta has written, and Teresa has translated, a fascinating life of one of the most extraordinary 18th-century *salonnières*, Madame du Deffand.

In the days when women of her kind had nothing whatever to do but receive guests and engineer brilliant conversations, Madame du Deffand flourished.

Deffand saw her marquis husband for the first time on their wedding day, and at once flung herself into a life of debauchery that shocked even the beaumonde, becoming the mistress of the Regent and, having accepted a pension from him, proceeding to ever more scandalous intrigues. "I think if she had lived today she would have been a junkie," says Teresa.

"She was so high-spirited, she would do anything to be daring and defiant."

But Sainte Beuve considered her one of the finest exponents of classical French prose, and her correspondence with a series of men from Voltaire to Horace Walpole, with whom she fell passionately and obsessively in love, is full of biting wit and observation despite the fact that she was by then totally blind.

She would sit like a waxwork in her hooded chair, pale and tiny, her large and once beautiful eyes wide open, stroking her angora cats and noisy little dogs; she would recognise the faces of guests by running a finger over them. Walpole was captivated by this "old blind débauché of wit". "She goes to operas, plays, and Versaille; she gives suppers twice a week; she makes new songs and epigrams . . . she dictates charming letters to Voltaire . . . she is all love and hatred, still anxious to be loved . . . "

> 'If she had lived today she would have been a junkie'

Yet *ennui* beset her. "I have to say," says Teresa, "that I became quite irritated with Madame du Deffand over her *ennui*.

"It's depression, really. She wallowed in it. I feel less sympathetic to her than Benedetta because she reminds me of my mother, who was also an intelligent woman who didn't do anything to use her intelligence to the full. And you feel that if you could only get her to make a little effort to look outward instead of navel-gazing she would find some happiness."

Benedetta and Teresa met 20 years ago through Teresa's sister-in-law, Evelyn Waugh's daughter the late Margaret FitzHerbert (author of *The Man who was Greenmantle*) who was then living in Rome. At that time Teresa, mother of four, was reading French and Italian as a mature student at Exeter University. And later, when she read Benedetta's book, she seized upon the idea of translating it into English. It has been a two-year undertaking — while at the same time, running the Waugh house at Combe Florey and finishing her fourth and fifth novels.

Madame du Deffand has changed Benedetta Craveri's life in a quite unpredictable way. She used to be the producer of cultural radio programmes in Rome. Thanks to the book she was appointed professor of French Literature at the University of Tuscia, Viterbo — and she found a new husband, the diplomat Benoit d'Aboville. This came about picturesquely when the book was published in France and she took part in the French book programme *Apostrophes* with Bernard Pivot.

"I sat next to him at dinner once," says Teresa. "He didn't like me at all.

"Well, Benoit was watching *Apostrophes* and asked an Italian diplomat friend if he knew me." Luckily the friend did; he arranged a dinner; they met, and married, which is how the elegant Benedetta finds herself the ambassador's wife in Prague. "So this book changed my life in every way."

Writer and translator never met or talked while the work was in progress. So they now discuss the decor of Deffand's salon (buttercup yellow silk walls hung with flame coloured swags) and Teresa tells Benedetta how the National Trust took over her family's stately home, Clandon Park, and introduced startling 18th-century colours that made one feel quite queasy.

Benedetta was keen to know whether Teresa agreed that Walpole must have been a homosexual. They both concluded that he was.

"A social climber," says Teresa, "and a terrific snob. Somebody who doesn't dare put his toe in the water but lives vicariously. There was something very ungentlemanly about the hurtful way he treated Madame du Deffand. I think he was probably a malicious little creep."

It transpires during their conversation that both women have watched their offspring produce novels. "My younger daughter has written a novel of adolescence," says Benedetta. "There is a portrait in it of a divorced mother who is very civilised, full of good intentions and *immensely boring*. And it is my portrait . . . "

"Yes, it's very odd when your children write novels," says Teresa (mother of third generation novelist Daisy). "You think gosh, I didn't realise they'd noticed that. Are they really so perceptive?"

● Madame du Deffand and Her World *is published by Peter Halban. £20.*

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هكذا من الأصل

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The jacket has survived grunge and is back on the catwalk — nipped in at the waist, with shoulders



ABOVE: Chanel — total black-out styling





ABOVE: Krizia — sleek tailoring with black sweater
LEFT: Sonia Rykiel — shorts instead of skirt





ABOVE: Dolce e Gabbana — both skirt and trousers
LEFT: Dolce e Gabbana — neatly buttoned-up





ABOVE: Genny — an elegant fit
LEFT: Dolce e Gabbana — wrap A-line skirt



ABOVE: Chanel — taking the look from head to toe







ABOVE: Gravel speckle tweed jacket, £74.99; matching A-line mini skirt, £29.99 Warehouse, branches nationwide
CENTRE: Brown tweed jacket, £85; matching A-line wrap skirt, £30, Marks and Spencer, selected branches
Photographs by JOHN HICKS

Suitably matched

ABOVE: Brown/grey tweed jacket, £225 (matching skirt, £179), Maxmara, Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1
Catwalk photographs by CHRIS MOORE
Make-up by Stephanie Jenkins. Hair by James Dodds
Shot at the High Rocks Complex, Tunbridge Wells



Fashion
IAIN R. WEBB

There is nothing more enduring in a woman's wardrobe than a well-cut jacket. During the stylistic hiccup commonly known as grunge, the jacket was all but abandoned in favour of plaid shirts, slippery silky dresses, and softly, softly sweaters and cardigans. But the spring summer shows this year were full of carved jackets which nipped at the waist, and even exaggerated the shoulder line with the return of the maligned shoulderpad.

The wise designer never really stopped producing a jacket or two. Their selling collections (the ones which are shown to the buyers in the showroom after all the catwalk shenanigans are over) invariably include this eminently saleable item.

Some of the best jackets this winter come as part of a short skirted suit. They are curvey, single or double breasted and worn with little A-line or wrap minis. This new mini tailored look will continue through into next summer.

Texture is all-important. Speckly tweeds — ranging from striking black and white to brown, soft oatmeal and creamy mixes — ensure the finished effect is far from hard-edged.

The little tweedy suit was extremely popular on the international catwalks. In Milan Dolce e Gabbana featured very short shorts worn over woolly tights. Although hemlines may be cut high on the thigh it still manages to appear a cover-all look, with polo neck sweaters a must.

Genny favoured a more elegant look, with an edge-to-edge speckle suit, trimmed with leather, while Krizia offered a longer, double-breasted jacket completely hiding the hemline of the skirt.

In Paris, Karl Lagerfeld continued the cover-up theme in his collection for Chanel. Monochromatic flecked mini-skirt suits were accessorised with thigh-length boots made from the same fabric — the gap in between filled by the discovery of the last decade, black opaque tights.

Sonia Rykiel favoured shorts with her tweedy jackets, adding glamour with a handful of diamanté accessories, and black patent ankle boots.

New Yorker Isaac Mizrahi showed the perfect tweed suit — a double-breasted, curvey jacket with a fluted, flirty skirt which fell between thigh and knee. Ralph Lauren teamed a single-breasted version with a mini-kilt.

The little skirt suit has also become a favourite on the high street, with just as many differing styles available. Agnes B, Marks and Spencer, Hobbs, French Connection, Etam and Warehouse have all produced neat suits in flecked tweeds or heathery plaids.

With the January sales looming, now is a great time to shop for this great new classic. If the mini-skirt or shorts appear a little too off-beat, the jacket will prove endlessly useful. Worn with longer skirts, or wide, knitted trousers it still looks of the moment, and, more importantly, will never go out of style.

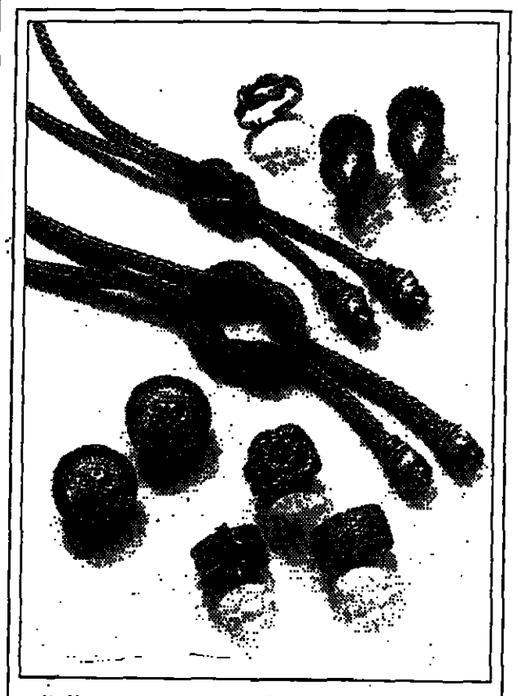
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Alan Coren



■ Come clean, whoever you are, for you are stealing my dreams

I have never yet taken anything to the European Court of Human Rights — it would mean hanging around for months in Strasbourg, a stolid place enlivened only by the noise of geese having things poked down them to swell their livers (if a European Court of Poultry Rights is ever established, Strasburghers will have a lot to answer for) — but given the extraordinary concatenation of the past week's most momentous events, I may now be left with no other course. I seek clarification.

The first momentous event was that a man who years ago bought a painting at a flea market, took it home, and, according to all newspaper reports, "immediately threw it in his attic", has just discovered it to be worth £20 million. That is because it is by Van Gogh. You can tell this by looking in the lower right-hand corner, since that is where Vincent signed it, in huge red letters, and while you might argue that that doesn't prove anything, I would argue that it should at least be enough to exercise the curiosity of somebody who went out to buy a painting in the first place. If you or I did that, and saw the most unmistakable signature there is, I cannot believe that our first move would be to bung it immediately in the attic. Come to that, I cannot imagine why anyone would buy anything to bung in the attic immediately, unless, of course, he was barking mad — oh, look, beloved, a worthless painting, that will go very nicely with my tea-chest full of mouldy shoes, it will look terrific propped against your rusty Mickey Mouse tricycle, it will set off our pile of old *Readers' Digests* a treat, pass me my chequebook — but what is even odder is that, many years later, he went back into the loft, looked at his picture again, and for some reason decided, this time, to ask Amsterdam's Van Gogh Museum to authenticate it. Whereupon he was informed that it was as far from worthless as worthlessness ever gets.

Leaving us with umpteen questions of our own. For this lucky bastard has just realised one of mankind's most pervasive dreams: he has gone up a loft-ladder broke and come down it with £20 million, and we, who share that dream, want to know all there is to know about it. We shall, however, discover nothing; for he is, we were told, "exercising his right to remain anonymous".

I was still seething over this when the week's second most momentous event fortuitously collided with it. It was another of mankind's most pervasive dreams. It was the one about going into a newsagent's broke and coming out of it with £20 million. We, who share that dream, wanted to know all there was to know about it. We shall, however, discover nothing; for the jackpot-winner is, we were told, "exercising his right to remain anonymous".

Oh really? What right? There are 50 million of us out here, we have rights, too, what's so special about his that it should so cursorily disenfranchise ours? No man is an island, sunshine, you have realised your dream in all our behalves, we have the right to know who you are and what it is like to be who you are at this seminal moment, we even have the right to dog you for the rest of your days to see what happens, will you rise further, will you plummet, will you be happy, will you go mad? Lifelong scrutiny is the price for those who realise other people's dreams, it comes with the territory: you cannot just stick £17,880,003 in the Woolwich and slide back into snug obscurity, you do not have rights, what you have is obligations, what you have is duties.

National ones, what's more. So take a lesson from one who has ever appreciated what that means: for last week, incredibly, the third of mankind's most pervasive dreams was also realised, the one about finding a fortune buried in the garden. But unlike the wimp with the Van Gogh or the poltroon with the jackpot, this lucky winner did not flinch from the limelight's myriad threats. She exercised no specious right, cobbled to serve a selfish end and leave poor dreamers gnashing their teeth over the withheld identity of "a Windsor woman who yesterday discovered that oil under her lawn could be worth £100 billion". She stood up and was counted. She was, as always, an example to us all.



"BUT I AM THE OPPOSITION LEADER." Peter Brookes 14 XII 94

Taking the 30-year view

John Patten argues that the Tories must in future put responsibility, as well as property, back in private hands

In the middle of the tumult that seems to have taken a nearly endemic grip of our political life, it is vital for Tories to think long-term. It may help us to find the route back to what passes for normality in political life. In 1979, we started what will turn out to be a 30-year-long march if given the electoral chances. The agenda is only half fulfilled.

It is ludicrous for the political chattering classes to complain of the lack of a new Tory "big idea". Most centuries have only two or three big ideas given to them. After communism (which we rejected), 1945-welfarism (which we swallowed whole for a while) and then the post-1979 changes we have wrought, the 20th century's quota is used up.

So great have been the transformations in attitudes in the era of post-modern politics which we have created, that rosy economic prospects may not be enough. In the United States, the lessons of the presidential election in 1992 and of last month's Congressional elections demonstrate that a combination of incumbency and good economic fortune are not the copper-bottomed guarantee of electoral success that conventional wisdom once suggested. So we have to show the electorate a very clear map of where we are going. We have to tell them about the road we are travelling and how we can give them a square deal and make their lives better. We do not have to come up with a new big idea: we have to tell people that the grand plan is to complete what we began in 1979.

The trouble is, the first 15 years were taken up with the easy half of the programme. It did not seem so at the time, but curbing union power, beginning the mass transfer of ownership of housing and privatising many state industries was relatively easy. Giving people the chance to own their own houses or buy shares was successful because people like to own things. Much more difficult is the task for the next 15 years: transferring responsibility along with ownership. We should give people scope to create a civic society for themselves, consistent with the fine old Tory principles of ownership *and* responsibility.

The process of shrinking the State by transferring ownership is not yet complete. To the immense moral profit of families and the social benefit of communities, we have created a house-owning democracy, but we do not yet have a share-owning community of any depth. The number of people with a stake in the economic life of the country this way is slipping — from 11 million in 1991 to just nine million now. The Government still owns too much, everything from the British Waterways Board and the Post Office to the Covent Garden Market Authority and the Scottish Transport Group. Privatisation, that truly British medium-sized idea, still sweeps the globe, transforming post-communist countries and admired in each hemisphere. But the job is not complete. It remains the case that the best people to run businesses are business people. That is where we began; that is where we should finish. We should aim to have returned the lot to the private sector by 1999. With such a clean slate to begin the new century, we could then concentrate all our energies on the transfer of responsibility, paralleling the transfer of ownership.

> Some people still believe that compassion is proportionate to money spent

We are still prey to the narcotic habit that "they" will do the things we and our neighbours would do better if only we were given the chance, the money, and the responsibility. The fantasy that the amount of money a government spends on an issue is proportionate to its compassion still seduces people. But the reverse is true. The more responsibility for running communities is in community hands, the better life is going to be. That may now seem a fantastical suggestion, but then as recently as 1979, so did the idea of the State no longer owning car plants or providing housing.

We can already see the first signs of just how, if the State and local councils alike deliberately decide to steer but not to row, they can progressively make life better for those who get the chance to take more responsibility. There have been housing associations for some years. These bring together a combination of public and private money with public, private and voluntary endeavour, to provide social housing for rent. To roars of tenant applause, councils such as the Vale of White Horse in bosky Oxfordshire, are transferring all of their homes to just such associations.

Government has taken the decision to give people the chance to take charge of education as well. Power was deliberately taken into the centre, away from local education authorities, and then redistributed to those who wanted it, in centrally funded but entirely locally run grant-maintained schools. Among these now are some of the most successful comprehensives. And grant-maintained schools are a new focus for community life. Run for local children by local governors, business people, the churches and teachers, they help to bind neighbourhoods together.

Such endeavours have both practical and civic virtues. Money is better spent, and local involvement is promoted. Tenants and children are getting a better deal and higher standards. However, we must not stop here. Even now the scale of government needs to be much reduced. Officialdom still spends more than 40 per cent of the nation's wealth. Big government, even if well run by Conservatives, is not good government.

Take just two examples: stopping crime and looking after people in need. The first involves predominantly the young; the second the elderly. In the politics of crime, it is usually a mistake to underestimate the anger of voters. Capping the inexorable post-war rise of crime, and the matching growth in the petty incivilities which make life unbearable, is a vital task. Detection, condign punishment and the principle of putting the victim first make a virtuous trio. Yet a fourth aim needs to be added. This is to prevent criminality among youngsters in the first place. Neighbourhood watches and parish constables are a very good start, making people more secure. If criminal behaviour is to be nipped in the bud, this needs to be done by those who first sense the problem coming: parents, teachers, the police, local authorities, churches and others. These are the people who together can solve the problem. Criminal prevention should be at the heart of our anti-crime policy in the new century. If housing associations can succeed, why not "criminal prevention associations", targeting the young who are at risk and preventing them from becoming habitual offenders? This would be compassionate and effective local effort in action, marrying public funds and private effort in permanent local anti-crime networks.

By the same token, the provision of social care locally is likely to be more human and economic. In part of a city or a slice of countryside or along a stretch of coast, there is no reason why care in the community could not be publicly funded but delivered by local organisations. This would be exactly that same mix of private individuals, volunteers and the private sector which helps to make grant-maintained schools and housing associations buzz and hum. County councils which bleat that even with all the extra money available they cannot manage to help those in need should forthwith transfer the task to "care associations" which can.

Labour MPs talk a lot about community. It is a veneer. They do not want diverse and varied provision. Whenever they hear of a grant-maintained school or locally run old people's homes, they complain that this must mean two tiers of provision. But they want to recreate bureaucratic domination without recreating municipal socialism. No Derek Hattons or Ted Knights, but equally no true devolution of power. Labour wants municipalism behind a façade of community rhetoric.

By comparison, the Conservative message, as we open up this second front for the new century, is that the local and mixed are much better than the bureaucratic and uniform. The practical Tory message should be that in social as in economic affairs, we will give the people a better deal and enhance their opportunities. And the moral component of this message is just as powerful, for it matches the benefits of ownership with the imperative of responsibility.

John Patten's book on the Tories in the 21st century will be published next year by Sinclair-Stevenson.

Why prey must have a chance

Geoffrey Wheatcroft on an unsporting kill

Hardly any of us are entirely logical or honest about the hunting of animals. "Hardly any" because logic has to be conceded to strict vegans who won't drink milk or wear leather, let alone eat meat or take an animal's life, not to mention the Jains who wear face masks so as not to swallow tiny insects inadvertently.

The rest of us are inevitably ambiguous and hypocritical. Most of us do eat meat and wear leather and wool, many of us enjoy some form of field sport. And yet we are still revolted by a story like the shooting of three practically tame elephants. They had strayed across the border into Tanzania, from the Amboseli National Park in Kenya. One of the three carcasses has been identified as "RGB"; his two companions were almost certainly other known and named elephants from the same herd, which now has only five old bulls remaining.

Shooting RGB, says Cynthia Moss, who spent a decade studying the Amboseli herd, "was as sporting as shooting your neighbour's poodle". The crucial word is "sporting", and it explains our revulsion. The elephants may not have died particularly painful deaths, but they were quite without defences. There is clearly a difference between stalking a wild stag, which detects and takes fright at a human being several hundred yards away, and clubbing a corpulent deer in a public park. Our perception of the two deaths has to do less with cruelty than with fairness, and with some equally intangible aesthetic quality.

No doubt we are hypocrites if we make an absolute distinction between trout fishing and bear-baiting, as most of us do. In both cases, an animal is being used, or abused, perhaps killed, for pleasure. But instinct tells us that there is a difference, quite apart from degrees of cruelty. The trout has a chance — it doesn't have to take the fly, after all — while the baited bear has none. Unlike the fish, it is there for no other purpose than warped human enjoyment.

This is misunderstood even within the debate over those field sports which remain legal. With a high level of hypocrisy, the Labour Party wants to ban foxhunting, but has nothing to say about fishing. This is, you might say, not unconnected with the fact that the former is the sport of a quarter of a million people, few of whom vote Labour, and the latter of four million people, many of whom do.

But class animus and intellectual dishonesty aside, there is a point missed by Tony Blair's colleagues — few of them, one imagines, being familiar with, covert or stream. I don't hunt but I do fish, yet if I had to choose to outlaw one field sport, it would not be hunting. At least the foxes hunted and the hares coursed are wild creatures. But there is surely something aesthetically displeasing about modern commercial trout fishing and pheasant shooting.

Millions upon millions of fish and birds are artificially reared to be stocked, and put down, and then caught or shot. A sorry change came over the English countryside in the 19th century, when it was discovered that game birds could be bred like geese or turkeys, though at a cost. "Up goes a guinea, bang goes six-pence, down comes half-a-crown": the Victorian joke about shooting still applies, though it should be index-linked for inflation. All the guns who will be out on Boxing Day would be disgusted by the "sport" on offer before the war at Monte Carlo, where live pigeons were released from cages to be shot by paying guns. They might even dislike those vast Edwardian *battues* in Norfolk, where thousands of birds were shot in a day. They might reflect on the artificiality of their own sport.

Fashions change, and sensibilities too. Field sportsmen nowadays shrink also from the big-game hunting of a century ago, or even of Hemingway's time — large parties, organised at great expense to shoot as many head of elephant or tiger as possible with the minimum of inconvenience. In extreme cases, for poor shots who could scarcely manage life in the bush, lions or buffalos would be captured and tethered to be shot. As I say, this was not in itself inhumane — it might be considerably more humane than letting the poor shots loose to wound but not kill moving targets — but it still offends against a deep instinct.

So it does with RGB and his inoffensive companions. In his essay "Shooting an Elephant", George Orwell wrote of his aversion to having to do just that, even though he was "not squeamish about killing animals". He did so for safety rather than ivory, after the elephant had killed a man in his village in Burma. Opinion divided afterwards: "the owner was furious, but he was only an Indian and could do nothing", while younger European colleagues "said it was a damn shame to shoot an elephant for killing a coolie, because an elephant was worth more than any damn Coringhee coolie". But Orwell felt that he was doing something unnatural, shooting that great, slow beast "with the preoccupied grandmotherly air that elephants have. It seemed to me that it would be murder to shoot *him*".

No such scruples afflicted the "white hunters" who killed RGB, and who are doubtless impervious to either ethical or aesthetic argument. But for the rest of us, even as we go on chasing animals, we have to *justify* sport by that very word. It's not the lack of decency or humanity in killing a tame elephant, nor even the grubby greed that offends, but quite simply the lack of anything resembling a sportsman's challenge.

Class act

THE LABOUR PARTY has opened up a new flank in its campaign, and is training its sights on the well-heeled sophisticates who flick idly through glossy titles. John Prescott launches the initiative this week in *Tatler's* January issue, appealing for readers to write to him under the banner "Tatler Readers for Labour".

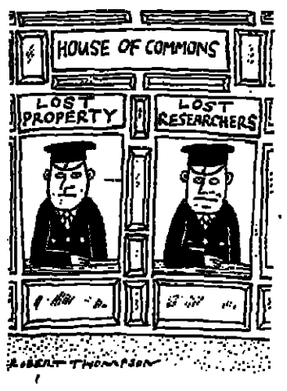
The call for votes is accompanied by a Prescott polemic in the magazine. "I must admit, I'm as surprised as you to find myself writing for *Tatler*," he gushes. "But a vote's a vote, and I suspect many *Tatler* readers wasted theirs on the Tories at the last election. I must be perfectly honest. I have never read *Tatler* before, let alone written an article for it."

The deputy leader goes on to talk proudly of his roots. "A working-class boy who left school at 15 to train as a chef, worked for 10 years at sea as a steward, came up through the ranks of the trade union movement and returned to formal education." Prescott's office is proud of the article. "I am sure we would write for *Harpers & Queen* and *Country Life*. We will recruit members wherever we can," says a spokesman.

Tatler, too, recognises its coup. "Obviously, it's very incongruous, but that's the nature of the magazine," says editor Jane Procter. "And there are an awful lot of young affluent people who will be voting Labour next time."

Of a feather

WITH A HUFF and a squawk, the manager of one of London's better-known drinking haunts has upped and left the restaurant he looked after for 20 years. He debunked



with 22 staff and a menagerie of pets, including two labradors and a brace of parrots.

Regulars at the L'Artiste Assoiffé will miss in particular the two noisy birds, which presided over diners indulging in after-dinner mints. But Vincent Garcia-Quivos says he fell out with the new owner of the restaurant, so he's decamped to start afresh at Arcadia, a nearby establishment. Back at L'Artiste Assoiffé, two new parrots have been recruited.

Top whack

AN IDEAL weekend break over the new year holiday is available to any lottery winner. The Lanesborough Hotel claims to be offering the most expensive winter weekend, at £29,000 for two in its royal suite. Separate suites will be made available for eight guests.

Hairdressers, pedicurists and masseurs will be on standby, and a dinner for ten features a piper at midnight. Presents come from Garrards, jeweller to the Queen. Worth £1,000 each, they are said to include a sterling silver watering-can for serving salad dressing.

On New Year's Day, the party heads for Moyn's Park, the country estate of Lord and Lady Ivar Mountbatten, where an ice-rink will be created for the day's entertainment.

Off colour

THE LEGACY of Ambleside's most famous inhabitant has come back to haunt parishioners of the Lake District tourist trap. Newly published letters by the children's writer Beatrix Potter show that she thought the stained-glass windows in Ambleside church quite execrable.

Describing a funeral at the church in a letter to her good friend Louie Choyce, Potter complained she "was sitting waiting opposite the most atrocious stained-glass memorial window, with forget-me-nots as large as cabbages and colour to match".

The diatribe surprises the Rev. Doreen Harrison, curate of St Mary's. "It may not be one of our best, but the forget-me-nots are definitely blue — not green."



Sir Hector and Doris Kaestner: Florida wedding

● *Publican Trevor Coyne wanted his Rosie O'Grady tavern in Cork completely refurbished in time for Christmas. He expected the work to take a week, and hired 30 students from Cork University. In lieu of wages he offered a night's free drinking. The work was finished in 24 hours.*

Best friends

PACKING his best bib and tucker this Christmas is Sir Hector Monro, the 72-year-old Scottish Office minister and MP for Dumfries. He is flying to Florida to get married in Fort Lauderdale.

Monro's bride is a long-standing family friend, Doris Kaestner, who hails from Baltimore. Like Sir Hector, whose wife died this year, Kaestner has lost her spouse. But Kaestner and her husband had been friends with Sir Hector and Lady Anne ever since their encounter on a golf course some 15 years ago. Sir Hector's sons, Brigadier Seymour Monro and Lieutenant-Colonel Hugh Monro, have pronounced themselves "delighted" with the match.

After a short honeymoon in Florida, Sir Hector will return to his parliamentary duties. He offered only a brief comment yesterday on the timing: "Neither of us is getting any younger."

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PEACE MONEY

Three lessons for those who would invest in Ulster

The prospects for peace in Northern Ireland have always been closely linked to its economic plight. Unemployment, poverty and sectarian recruitment policies have long fuelled nationalist anger: it is equally certain that potential investors have been deterred by the violence of the last 25 years. Yesterday 300 delegates gathered at an international conference in Belfast to encourage economic growth in the Province. They should be under no illusions about the scale of the challenge they face.

The possibility of a "peace dividend" has been one of the incentives implicit in the peace process launched by the Downing Street declaration a year ago. Even the most deeply sceptical Unionists admit that an investment spree would be warmly welcomed in Ulster. The growing Protestant middle class is eager to see the development of a mature economy to support its commercial and cultural ambitions; the nationalist community is desperate for work. The desire to woo investors is one of the few aspirations that cross sectarian lines.

The response to the three-month-old IRA ceasefire from overseas has been rapid and generous. A package of aid has already been pledged by the United States, with the prospect of more to come from the American private sector. Last week, the European Commission announced its grandiloquent intention to hasten the end of the "last civil war within the European Union" with a £240 million grant over the next five years, additional to the £930 million which Ulster has already been promised. Large sums will soon be pouring into the North.

It is vital that this opportunity should not be squandered. Ulster's economic fortunes this century have been scarred by more than the Troubles. Myopic government intervention, cartelisation and the local preference for private rather than limited companies have also taken their toll. Because the region lacks raw materials, the gradual contraction of its shipbuilding and linen industries was a desperate loss. So dependent has the North become upon subsidies from Whitehall, that by the mid-1980s public spending accounted for 70 per cent of GDP in the Province and 45 per cent of the workforce was directly employed by the public sector. This year, £3.7 billion has been spent by the taxpayer in Ulster — only a third of which is accounted for by security costs.

The new aid programmes should aim to wean the North off this dependency. Growth in the area has been surprisingly fast in the last 30 years but has failed to keep pace with the birthrate. Long-term unemployment is more pronounced a problem than elsewhere in the United Kingdom and only 500 jobs a year have been created by inward investment in the last decade. Given that there are 100,000 people out of work in the Province, the likelihood of a politically convenient solution to the problem of unemployment is extremely small. Investors should therefore concentrate on three objectives.

First, they should have the courage to pour money into research and development as well as short-term projects. Ulster's current spending in this area is only half the UK average, a reflection of the area's general preference for low-technology business. Second, the existing community employment schemes should be expanded to help as many of the long-term unemployed as possible back into the labour market. Third, rigorous auditing procedures should be established to prevent a fresh burst of paramilitary racketeering. It is often said that the IRA is so indirectly dependent upon state subventions that it could never afford a British withdrawal. However the new money is spent, none of it must reach the men of violence.

CLEAN ROMAN HAND

Italy's battle to break with its scandalous past continues

Silvio Berlusconi, the Italian Prime Minister, spent yesterday answering the searching questions of Milan magistrates on his possible knowledge of bribes paid by his company Fininvest to tax police before he swept to power in March. When he was forming his Government in May, the man to whom he unsuccessfully attempted to offer the Ministry of the Interior was Antonio Di Pietro. It was an acknowledgement of the unique reverence and affection Italians have for this police officer turned magistrate, who has come to symbolise more than any other individual Italy's struggle to break with its scandal-ridden past. Last week, in the wake of Signor Di Pietro's dramatic announcement of his resignation from Milan's "clean hands" anti-corruption team, the Prime Minister repeated that the magistrate would be a welcome asset in Italian politics, and added: "Everyone would rather have him as an ally than a rival."

Signor Berlusconi should have thought of this earlier. The decline in his Government's fortunes since May can be charted by reference to the escalating confrontation between the two men. Neapolitan families buy Antonio Di Pietro figurines to decorate their Christmas cribs. Polls show that if both were to run for the Prime Minister's office, the magistrate would score seven votes to every three for Signor Berlusconi.

There has been constant public sparring since July, when the Milan magistrates forced Signor Berlusconi to rescind a decree which would have curbed their powers of pre-trial arrest in corruption cases. Matters came to a head last month. Signor Di Pietro chose the moment when the Prime Minister was presiding over an international conference on organised crime to issue the formal notification that he was personally under investigation for corruption. A week later, Italy's Supreme Court appeared to vindicate the Prime Minister's allegations of political bias when it ordered the transfer of the bribery case from Milan to sleepy Brescia. But Signor Di Pietro's emotional resignation letter, complaining that he had been used in a game of political tug-of-war and been made a hostage to politics, spun the wheel full circle.

The final score — assuming that this resignation stands — hands the magistrate a clear victory. It is he who is seen as the real champion of the principle that justice should be blind. The Prime Minister who complained that he was being hounded now appears in the guise of persecutor.

The Prime Minister may be fatally weakened. Once the 1995 budget is approved by the Italian parliament — as by law it must be before the year's end — all bets that his awkward coalition will hold together are now off. In January its most powerful member, Gianfranco Fini, will put his political future on the line by demanding that his supporters disband the neo-Fascist Italian Social Movement in favour of his National Alliance. The Alliance's new policy document swears allegiance to democratic values "which fascism trampled underfoot". If he succeeds, that could pave the way for fresh elections. Signor Di Pietro has yet to reveal his plans for the future. Italy may not have to wait long.

SMALL WHITE HUNTERS

Where is the pride in shooting a tame elephant?

There is something patently despicable in shooting three old and almost domesticated elephants that had strayed out of a national park in Kenya. Not only is the inequality of the combat between slow trusting animals and high-velocity rifles grotesque, the very notion of big game hunting as an acceptable "sport" becomes repugnant in an age where the indiscriminate slaughter of wildlife is changing the face of the natural world.

Yet there are still men who want to ape their ancestors and kill "big game". Reconciling man's desire to kill and collect trophies with the need to preserve the target species has proved one of the most difficult and controversial areas for wildlife conservation.

Game parks can be set up to protect endangered species. But free from their predators — principally humans — elephants, lions and buffalo tend to reproduce faster than their environment can sustain, and have to be culled. In some parts of the world, the culling of protected species has been successfully linked to the granting of hunting licences. Deer-stalking in Scotland or wildfowl shooting in Texas is carefully regulated, and licences are granted in strict accordance with the game population.

This often works well: the large sums that stalkers and hunters are prepared to pay can be ploughed back into wildlife management, conservation and the pursuit of poachers. In other places, however, the same profitable arrangement has had less happy results. The destabilising factor is corruption. However well balanced the legislation in Kenya and however committed the Government is to preserving its magnificent wildlife, bribery undermines every good intention. Hunting often attracts the most unscrupulous elements, who are willing to pay up to $25,000 for their sport. In poor countries, the temptation to pocket a bribe and look the other way is overwhelming — especially when corruption is universal and endemic.

The absence of regional co-operation in East Africa, for example, makes a mockery of borders which neither animals nor hunters respect. Big game can be lured from state parks and across political boundaries. Bribery can procure an instant hunting licence, and the animals become sitting targets.

Organisations such as the World Wide Fund For Nature are reluctant to call for a blanket moratorium on hunting because the money it generates can do so much to protect endangered animals. The hard task is to ensure that the money does not line the pockets of corrupt government officials, or hunting organisers, but goes instead to the rural communities that have an interest in protecting the species around them. Zimbabwe has one of the best policies. The licence money goes directly to the local villagers who, thus, have an interest in acting as voluntary gamekeepers.

Such schemes will not eliminate poaching or abuse by themselves. But they deserve help and support. It is beneficial too that the fashion for trophies on the wall or skins on the floor is fading in many parts of the world. Those advances should be accelerated in every possible way. Even if the demand to kill Africa's natural world may eventually diminish, the process is likely to be slow — too slow for many species.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Case for release of Myra Hindley

From Mr David L. Astor and Lord Longford

Sir, Your leading article, "No pleas for Hindley" (December 10), took issue with our support for parole for Myra Hindley. We condemn the crimes of Ian Brady and his assistant, Hindley, as much as you do. We believe our difference lies, rather, in our view of the effects on our society of treating someone as demonic — as the Jews were grotesquely treated in Germany, and as women called witches were once treated throughout Europe.

This process of dehumanising a hate-figure began here when our tabloid newspapers discovered the special excitement caused by a woman being involved in sadistic child murder. For nearly thirty years now, the tabloids have been re-telling the details of this terrible story as often as possible.

As there have been few new facts, the story has been refreshed with fabrications sold by ex-prisoners or prison officers and published with the repeated violent denunciations by relatives of the victims.

This performance has produced probably the longest running story in newspaper history. That it has been a great circulation success is shown by the keen competition between the tabloids in bidding against each other.

The indirect effects of this evil hate-campaign have been to encourage a belief, even among non-tabloid readers, that a woman in Cookham Wood Prison has unnatural powers of manipulation. So Myra Hindley is now apparently considered to live outside the protection of the law. Threats to kill her are frequently made in newspapers and broadcasts with impunity.

The attitude of all successive governments has been similar. They have taken no notice that she has twice been recommended for parole. Home Office officials and prison governors will freely say that the proper procedures have not been followed in her case. And the reason they all agree is ministerial fear.

The culmination of this debasing process will soon arrive when the Home Secretary announces his doctrine that a few prisoners will die in prison because the public wants to see this happen. This new version of the "oubliette" must not be accepted passively by Parliament, the Churches or the media.

One day, future ministers may think it wiser to let judges decide the fate of lifers, so that people do not have to die in prison to help governments win votes. Meanwhile, we are faced with a form of "lynch law" by instalments.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID L. ASTOR,
FRANK LONGFORD,
24 St Ann's Terrace, NW8.
December 13.

VAT on fuel

From Mr H. L. Scott

Sir, Mr B. W. Crossan (letter, December 8) contends that VAT on fuel is fair. I would be interested to know how he considers it fair that a householder in the north of Scotland should have to pay considerably more of this tax than the occupier of an equivalent house in the warmer south of England.

Yours faithfully,
H. L. SCOTT,
Ardmhor,
Kyleakin, Isle of Skye.
December 10.

Death-rate tables

From Dr Graham Crompton, President of the British Thoracic Society, and others

Sir, Your report on death-rate tables in hospitals (November 24; also letters, November 30) caused considerable concern to those of us involved in the care of people with asthma.

In fact 60 per cent of deaths from asthma occur outside hospital, and the numbers of deaths each year in any one hospital is so small that even one death might make the difference between being at the very top of a league table or being close to the bottom.

How, furthermore, should tables be interpreted? Being at the bottom of the league table might mean poor care, or it might mean that the hospital has such a concentration of expertise and facilities that it attracts referrals of severe, high-risk asthmatics from far and wide.

Asthma is a vital issue, but attention should be directed not to the production of potentially misleading and indeed uninterpretable figures, but at ways of ensuring that adequate resources are directed to research into the prevention and treatment of asthma, and into the provision of facilities for the care, support and education of those with this disease.

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM CROMPTON,
President, British Thoracic Society,
MARTYN PARTRIDGE,
Chairman, Board of Management,
National Asthma Campaign,
JOHN MOORE-GILLON,
Chairman, Executive Committee,
British Lung Foundation,
c/o The British Thoracic Society,
1 St Andrews Place, NW1.
December 1.

Labour's future policy on monarchy

From Mr Julian Randall

Sir, Far from being "scared away" by Mr Jack Straw's proposals for "slimming down" the monarchy ("Labour's new republic", leading article, December 5) I am interested in them. At least the party is prepared to think positively about our future as a country and what that means constitutionally.

"Sense of Britishness", "steeped in history" — what am I reading? Can we not debate the issues without resort to naive astonishment? The fact is that the monarchy, like any other human institution, is not "above the political fray". Those who watched the Prince of Wales's film last June will have been surprised less at his admission of adultery than the ease with which he can summon elected ministers and bring his interests to their attention.

Few people want to do away with monarchy completely. But reform of the House of Lords and proportional representation are not "teenage madness", as John Major has claimed: they are part of the search for the classless society to which he pays lip service.

Your readers can surely be trusted to decide on these matters without your pandering to fears born of the past.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN RANDALL,
36 Copper Beech Wynd,
Cairneyhill, Dunfermline.

From Sir Nicholas Barrington

Sir, I don't know what politicians' proposals for reducing the number of members of the Royal Family who perform public functions would amount to in practice (Agenda, December 12); but it may be worth recording that while I was serving in Pakistan we had immensely successful and productive visits by Princess Alexandra and her husband, and by the Duke of Gloucester.

Both these visits made a major contribution to Britain's good relations with and image in Pakistan and to our commercial and other interests there. I know also from personal experience in other posts what valuable work the Duke of Kent has done for British exports.

In considering British national interests the asset represented by such visits should not be overlooked.

Yours etc,
NICHOLAS BARRINGTON
(Ambassador and High Commissioner to Pakistan, 1987-94),
The Athenaeum,
Whitehall Place, SW1.
December 12.

From Mr Peter Townend

Sir, I do hope that the "five or six people" allowed to perform offical duties in Mr Straw's demolished Royal Family (report, December 5) can be extended to include the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, the Duke and Duchess of Kent, Princess Alexandra and Prince and Princess Michael.

These are the *real* Royal Family who do all the hard work and epitomise the value of royal activities which they perform with enthusiasm and charm, winning the praise and admiration of all who come into contact with them. Political pronouncements and marital scandals are almost non-existent.

Incidentally, I don't know how Mr Straw obtained his "40 His or Her Royal Highnesses": I can count only 20 (and two Majesties). The next generation, except in direct line, have no royal status, nor do they perform any duties. Mr Straw should consult King George V's curtailment of royal titles at the time of the first world war.

Yours faithfully,
PETER TOWNEND,
36 Chelsea Towers,
Chelsea Manor Gardens, SW3.
December 6.

From Mrs Rupert Lycett Green

Sir, The Royal Family bring *happiness* into millions of lives. Why else would they get thousands and thousands of requests each year to attend anything from an eight-year-old child's tea party to the opening of a Glasgow superstore, or to patronise anything from a spire appeal for a Cornish church to a world wildlife organisation. Politicians and filmstars don't receive anywhere *near* the same level of requests. I wonder why not?

Yours sincerely,
CANDIDA LYCETT GREEN,
Orchard Cottage,
Compton Beauchamp,
Shrivenham, Wiltshire.
December 7.

From the Secretary-General of the Monarchist League

Sir, Alan Hamilton, in his article of December 5, tells us that the royal heads of state in Scandinavia receive "state handouts". Could he tell us what he calls amounts paid to Europe's republican presidents?

Yours faithfully,
DONALD FOREMAN,
Secretary-General,
The Monarchist League,
BM 'Monarchist',
London WC1N 3XX.

Dowsing tests

From Dr G. F. Wood

Sir, Professor Vincent Reddish ("Water diviners look to the stars", report, December 1) should surely establish that a phenomenon exists before he investigates it.

There have been a number of experimental investigations into dowsing in the last 50 years, carried out under properly controlled conditions. In general, dowsers have attempted to locate static reservoirs or flowing conduits of water, situated beneath the surface in pre-arranged patterns known only to the testers.

In none of these tests has a dowser ever achieved a better-than-chance rate of success.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE WOOD,
14 Whitecroft,
Nailsworth, Gloucestershire.
December 4.

From Professor Rajeev Bansal

Sir, Your Science Editor's brief account of the mystery of water divining left me dismayed. I recognise that the view that the dowsing force is produced by a form of radiation from cosmic sources is held by Professor Vincent Reddish and not necessarily shared by the Science Editor. However, in presenting Professor Reddish's maverick belief without any critical discussion, the Science Editor is (in my opinion) short-changing the readers.

The report conveys the impression that the "distinguished British scientist" Professor Reddish validated his theory by "a series of experiments", but there is no indication that any fully controlled or blind experiments were carried out.

For example, Professor Reddish appears to have tested his claim that aluminium blocks the dowsing force by asking six (self-professed?) dowsers to wrap aluminium foil over their shoes and walk over known pipes. I am afraid that does not sound like "straightforward experimental physics" to me.

Yours faithfully,
RAJEEV BANSAL (Department of Electrical and Systems Engineering, University of Connecticut),
University of Oxford,
Department of Engineering Science,
Parks Road, Oxford.
December 2.

Reducing car numbers

From Mrs Dawn Lowe-Watson

Sir, If people work from home to stop the commuter flow into London (Mr Vinter's letter, December 10) then the inner cities will finally give up the ghost. Companies will move out to green-field sites, thus polluting the countryside and enlarging perimeter towns still further. Traffic volume in rural and provincial areas will build up as a result, and thus the sickness spreads.

The answer, as George Stern suggests in his visionary article, "How to clear our city streets" (December 3), must be to improve the quantity and quality of public transport.

To return home by bus or Tube after an evening at the theatre, a concert hall or a West End cinema can be a threatening experience and one which daunts many, especially women travelling alone. Far more care must be given to make late-night public transport safe if music and drama are to survive in central London.

Mr Stern rightly says that our black cabs are one area of excellence and need no competition — so long as they do not price themselves out of the market.

Yours faithfully,
DAWN LOWE-WATSON,
Flat 2, 25 Noel Road,
Islington, N1.
December 10.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Oral cancer risks

From Mr G. P. Feaver

Sir, Your article on smoking cannabis (Body and Mind, December 8) appeared, with some irony, one day after a conference in London on smoking and oral health, held to bring together health professionals to address the disturbing increase in oral cancer, especially amongst younger age groups.

A clear link has been established between smoking and oral cancer. Many of us working in oral cancer prevention have argued strongly in favour of health promotion and screening to increase awareness of this disease and its link with smoking.

It is likely that there is an increased risk of oral cancer in those who regularly smoke cannabis. Oral cancer is a dreadful disfiguring disease; survival rates have improved little this century and it remains more lethal than most cancers. Prevention is the only way this disease can be overcome for future generations.

Included in any debate on the legalisation of cannabis must be a thorough evaluation of the measurable physical consequences of this drug and its impact on the prevalence of oral cancer. Calls to legalise cannabis will otherwise undermine the efforts of many committed to reducing the morbidity and mortality of this terrible disease.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD FEAVER
(Chief Dental Officer),
Marks & Spencer plc,
Michael House, Baker Street, W1.
December 12.

Friends who need to be kept warm

From Mr David Harrop

Sir, The intolerance revealed by some of those writing about word-processed Christmas letters (November 28, December 3, 8) is not surprising. We must all have relatives who respond to our efforts to keep in touch by checking our spelling.

However, I am surprised at the poor awareness that some of the writers show on the nature of relationships. Friendship is not a two-state matter: on or off. Rather it is a continuum from immediate intimacy, tapering away to those with whom we have all but lost contact.

In a mobile career I have been most grateful for the friendship of colleagues and acquaintances, many of whom are now distant, yet I know that if the turn of events brought us together again we could pick up more or less where we left off.

I receive a number of printed letters at this time of year, and although not every family reference is exciting, many of the details are interesting. Most importantly, they maintain the link. It would be quite unrealistic for me to expect more distant friends to take the time to prepare handwritten notes.

I hope that those who receive mine value them for what they indicate rather than for their content or style, and are grateful that they need not struggle to decipher my handwriting. I am happy that the spelling checker will help to keep Great Aunt Doris calm.

Love to you all,
DAVID,
68 Burgess Wood Road South,
Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.
December 9.

From Mr P. H. Wolton

Sir, Today I returned home with a great sense of satisfaction, having posted our Christmas cards which, because my wife and I have just spent our first year abroad, for the first time contain a round-robin letter.

Imagine my discomfort to find a fax of your recent correspondence, sent by a well-meaning father. Clearly opinion is divided on whether we have done the right thing. Should expats be subject to a different set of rules on this tricky matter, or are we the worst offenders?

Yours faithfully,
PETER WOLTON,
1-23-23 Higashiyama,
Meguro-ku,
Tokyo 153, Japan.
December 9.

Theatre proposals

From Mr Andrew Hamilton

Sir, I suspect that most people who know the Royal National Theatre will be stupefied by Lord Annan's letter (December 12).

I wonder whether Sir Denys Lasdun and Lord Annan have ever visited the depressing underworld which exists beneath their hallowed "walkway"?

The Royal National needs a major facelift, not minor surgery.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW HAMILTON,
8 Carlyle Square, SW3.
December 12.

From Lady Engle

Sir, Noel Annan is absolutely right. Denys Lasdun's National Theatre works brilliantly and has given us enormous pleasure.

If we can fund improvements to discover front doors in theatres, would the Barbican not be a much stronger applicant?

Yours sincerely,
IRENE ENGLE,
32 Wood Lane, Highgate, N6.

Equality in uniform

From Miss Susan Daly

Sir, I disagree with Margaret Leeson's article (Education, December 12). Surely, the main aim of school uniform is not to impose discipline or conformity, or even to crush individuality, but quite simply to create equality. If all the children wear the same white shirt and dark blue jumper, then less well-off children do not have to feel ashamed or left out.

Margaret Leeson is right, children do want to belong. But how can they, if they do not have the right clothes? How can they blossom as individuals if they are being mocked and bullied about what they wear? Many schools now have a very simple uniform — without tie, blazer or boater — which is no doubt much cheaper for parents, and I am sure many children are very grateful that they do not have to worry every morning about what to wear.

Yours faithfully,
SUSAN DALY,
18 Circus Street, Greenwich, SE10.

Mythcalculation

From Mr P. M. B. Savage

Sir, Among the objects from Ripley Castle to be sold (report, December 10) you mention "a marble lifesize sculpture of Venus". How big would that be?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK SAVAGE,
Aynhoe Park,
Nr Banbury, Oxfordshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 13: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Viscount Tonypandy was received by Her Majesty.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded the Lady Elton as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

CLARENCE HOUSE
December 13: Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Beale today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Army Medical Corps, upon relinquishing his appointment as Surgeon-General.

Lieutenant-General Sir Cameron Moffat had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Deputy President, the British Red Cross Society, when Her Majesty presented him with The Queen's Badge of Honour and Certificate.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 13: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this evening gave a Dinner to mark the retirement of the Lord Ashburton KG as Lord Warden of the Stannaries.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 13: The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior, Order of St John, and The Duchess of Gloucester were present this evening at a Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas at the Grand Priory Church, St John's Gate, Clerkenwell, London EC1.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale and Major Nicholas Barne were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 13: The Duke of Kent, Colonel, Scots Guards, today received Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Fitzalan Howard, Commanding the 1st Battalion, on relinquishing the appointment and Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Miller-Bakewell on assuming the appointment.

The Duke of Kent, Patron, the Leukaemia Research Fund, this evening attended a carol concert, the Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7.

Captain Alexander Tetley was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent this morning presented the 'Children of Courage Awards', Westminster Abbey, London SW1.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, this afternoon opened the Leopold Muller Macmillan Day Centre, Whipps Cross Hospital, Whipps Cross, Leytonstone, London E11.

Mrs Richard Becket was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
December 13: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this afternoon visited St Christopher's Hospice, 51-59 Lawrie Park Road, Sydenham, London SE26.

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, President, this evening attended a Concert of Christmas Carols and Readings in aid of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund at St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4.

The Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, as President of Business in the Community, will hear reports from business leaders, who have attended Business in the Community's Seeing is Believing programme during the autumn, at St James's Palace at 2.30; and will host a dinner for the Foundation for Integrated Medicine at 8.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will attend a fund-raising luncheon at Saltire House, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, at noon; will open Edinburgh Carers Centre at 4 Bellevue Street at 3.00; will attend a reception at Lothian Regional Chambers, Parliament Square, at 3.30; and will attend a dinner at Prestonfield House at 6.30.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, will attend a carol concert in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, at 6.35.

The Duke of Kent will receive an honorary doctorate of philosophy of London Guildhall University at the Barbican Arts and Conference Centre at 10.30.

Princess Alexandra, as Chancellor of Lancaster University, will open Chancellor's Wharf student residences at 11.45; and will preside at ceremonies for the conferment of higher and honorary degrees and postgraduate diplomas at 12.30.

Election

Sir John Tooley has been elected an honorary member of the Incorporated Society of Musicians.

Birthdays today

Mr David Band, chief executive, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, 52; Captain the Hon Sir Nicholas Beaumont, 65; Mr Vivian Bendall, MP, 56; Professor Richard Cassilly, operatic tenor, 67; General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick, 82; the Right Rev J.B.R. Grindrod, former Archbishop of Brisbane and Primate of Australia, 75; Sir Anthony Kershaw, former MP, 79; Miss Barbara Leigh-Hunt, actress, 59; Mr Thomas McAvoy, MP, 51; Mr Robert Mitchell, former chairman, GLC, 81; Mr C.R. Morris, former MP, 68; Mr Alberto Morrocco, painter, 77.

Mr Toby Newth, governor, Exeter Prison, 57; Sir John Osborn, former MP, 72; Dame Ruth Railton, founder, National Youth Orchestra, 79; Mr Stan Smith, tennis player, 48; Mr Roy Thomason, MP, 50; Sir Simon Towneley, Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, 73; Colonel Sir Cennydd Traherne, KG, former Lord Lieutenant of Mid, South and West Glamorgan, 84; Miss Rosalyn Tureck, conductor, 80; Mr Peter Williams, rugby league player, 34.

Scriveners' Company

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and Mr Sheriff and Mrs Jonathan Charkham, was presented with the Scriveners' Company Quill Pen by the Master, Mr A.H. Hamilton-Hopkins, yesterday at the Mansion House.

TONY WHITE



Marjorie Wallace, chief executive of SANE, the schizophrenia charity, and a former journalist on *The Times*, after being appointed MBE by the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday. Ms Wallace has raised £6 million to build a research centre into the causes of mental illness. King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Stamatia Xylas, the Greek shipowner, each gave £1.75 million. The Sultan of Brunei and the Medical Research Council each gave £1 million. Oxford University £500,000 and an appeal in *The Times* in May drew many donations from the public

University news

The Royal Academy of Engineering
The Royal Academy of Engineering has awarded Jerwood Foundation New Graduate Engineering Prizes to ten outstanding 1994 university graduates. They are:

Matthew Bradley, GKN Technology, ex University of Bristol; *Alan Hocknell*, Loughborough University of Technology, ex Imperial College; Naomi Johnston, Parkman Consulting Engineers, ex The Queen's University, Belfast; Ian Kelly, British Gas, ex University of Durham; Catherine Pill, Trafalgar House Construction Limited, ex University of Bristol; Darren Stelfox, British Sugar, ex UMIST; Dan Talmage, University of Oxford; Hugh Unwin, Sir Robert McAlpine Limited, ex University of Cambridge; Mark Volanthen, University of Southampton, ex University of Cambridge, and Catherine Witt, BP Exploration, ex University of Oxford.

The prizes were awarded by Mr William Uttley-Moore, CBE, FEng, at a ceremony at The Academy's headquarters on Monday, December 12.

Dinners

Parliamentary and Scientific Committee
Mrs Anne Campbell, chairman of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, was the host at a dinner held last night at the House of Commons after a meeting of the committee when Mr John Collier FRS, Sir Richard Morris and Mr Clive Bates spoke.

ICSA
Baroness Seear, Chairman of the Administration Lead Body, was the guest speaker at the annual dinner of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators held last night at Guildhall. Professor Stephen Bristow, president, was in the chair.

New date for Mayan civilisation

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE origins of ancient Maya civilisation in Central America have been pushed back more than a thousand years by recent discoveries in Belize. A series of finds, including stone tools and pollen from cultivated plants, suggests that farmers first settled the tropical forests of the Yucatan Peninsula soon after 3000 BC.

Maya civilisation, noted for the great temples on sites such as Tikal or Chichen Itza, flourished in Guatemala, Belize and southern Mexico between 400 BC and AD 1100. Until now, the first villages were dated to no earlier than 1200 BC, although occasional finds of stone tools suggested an earlier, perhaps transitory, human presence.

Investigations at Colha, a site in northern Belize first explored by a British Museum expedition in 1973, now indicate that farmers were living in the area by 2500 BC, and perhaps several centuries earlier. They do not seem to have used pottery, as the settlers at Cuello and other early villages did a millennium later, but several kinds of stone tools have been found. The earliest, identified by Thomas Kelly of the University of Texas, are broad-bladed spearheads with wide barbs, suitable for thrusting or throwing short distances. Animals such as deer and peccary, which could be tackled at close range in the jungle, are the likely targets, although the spears could also have been used as weapons.

These "Lowe Points" are dated between 2500 and 1900 BC, Mr Kelly says, and are succeeded by less bulky, but equally effective, spearheads. Around 1300 BC a unifacial tool, probably used as an adze or hoe, was employed at Colha.

A pollen core from the nearby Cobweb Swamp suggests that these early hunters were also farmers: maize pollen is found as early as 2800 BC, according to Professor Thomas R. Hester of the University of Texas, and manioc or cassava, a starchy root crop, is also represented by a single pollen grain.

Maya cultivation of manioc in the first millennium BC was confirmed recently by Dr Jon Hather of University College London, showing that they had a more broadly-based subsistence economy than previously supposed: fruits and other forest products complemented maize, root crops, beans and squashes, with animal protein from hunting and from the flesh of domesticated dogs.

The stimulus to early Maya settlement seems to have been the late post-glacial rise in sea-level, which created a succession of rich swamp environments in lowland Belize; a similar process led to the development of Mesolithic societies in northern Europe between 10,000 and 5,000 years ago.

In the Maya area, the margins of wetlands were favoured places to live, and drainage ditches cut into the damp soil allowed extra crops to be grown during a period of stable sea-level. Later on, a further rise flooded the drained fields, and the Maya shifted the focus of their communities to the higher ridges, where the first temples were raised soon after 1000 BC.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Nostradamus (Michel de Notredame), astrologer, Saint-Remy, 1503; Tycho Brahe, astronomer, Knudstrip, Denmark, 1546; James Bruce, explorer in Africa, Larbert, central Scotland, 1730; Thomas Cochrane, 10th Earl of Dundonald, admiral, Annsfield, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, 1775; Pierre de Chavannes, mural painter, Lyons, 1824; King George VI, reigned 1936-52, York Cottage, Sandringham, 1895; Paul Eluard, poet, Paris, 1895.

DEATHS: Sir John Oldcastle, alleged heretic, "hung and burnt hanging", London, 1417; King James V of Scotland, reigned 1513-42, Falkland, Fife, 1542; George Washington, 1st American President 1789-97, Washington, 1799; Leon Faucher, statesman, Marseilles, 1854; Albert, Prince Consort, Windsor Castle, 1861; George Hudson, the "railway king", London, 1871; Will Pyfe, character comedian, St Andrews, 1947; Sir Stanley Spencer, painter, Taplow, Buckinghamshire, 1959; William Slim, 1st Viscount Slim, Field Marshal, Governor-General of Australia 1953-60, London, 1970.

Parliamentary Carol Service

The Prime Minister was represented by Mr Anthony Newton, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, who read the sixth lesson at a parliamentary carol service held yesterday in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, in aid of the Westminster Medical School Research Trust. The Speaker read the seventh lesson.

Canon Donald Gray, Chaplain to the Speaker, officiated. The Rev Steve Penrose, Free Church Chaplain of Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, read the Christmas bidding prayer. The Rev Bernard Hughes and the Rev Philip Allen, Anglican and Roman Catholic Chaplains of Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, led the prayers.

Lady Barber, Chairman of the Palace of Westminster All-Party Ladies' Committee, read the first lesson, Sir Paul Girolami read the second lesson, Professor Roger Greenhalgh, Dean of the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, read the third lesson, Mrs Diana Maddock, MP, Liberal Democrat, read the fourth lesson and Mr Tony Blair, Leader of HM Opposition, read the fifth lesson.

The Rev Jonathan Goodall, Chaplain and Sacrist of Westminster Abbey, the Rev Phillip Chester and the Rev Peter Cowell, Priest Vicars of St Margaret's, were robed and in the Sanctuary.

Luncheon

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hogg, QC, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given yesterday by Her Majesty's Government at Lancaster House in honour of Mr Abdulla bin Mohamed bin Ageel Al Dhahab, Ambassador of Oman.

Eton College

Eton College closes today.
In the final of the House Association Mr C.W. Milne's defeated Mr A.C.D. Graham-Campbell's by two goals to one.
School opens for the Lent Half on Wednesday, January 11.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Paul Smith, Rector, Bideford (Exeter): to be also a Prebend of Exeter Cathedral.

The Rev Philip Street, Vicar, Gosberton Clough and Quadring and Assistant Local Ministry Officer in the diocese of Lincoln: to be Vicar, St Paul's, Buttershaw, Bradford (Bradford).

The Rev Judith Thompson, Chaplain's Assistant, Southmead Hospital, and Honorary Deacon, St Aidan, Bristol: to be Assistant Curate (part-time) (with the title Assistant Priest), St Barnabas, Knowle (Bristol).

The Rev Dr Ross Thompson, Vicar, St Aidan w St George, Bristol: to be Priest-in-charge, St Barnabas, Knowle (Bristol).

The Rev James Trevelyan, Rector, Honiton Team Ministry (Exeter): to be also a Prebend of Exeter Cathedral.

The Rev Dr Kevin Ward, Priest-in-charge, St Thomas, Claremount, Lecturer at Halifax parish church and Diocesan Mara Link Officer (Wakefield): to be Lecturer in African Religious Studies in the Department of Theology at Leeds University. (He will resign his present appointments on August 31, 1995 and take up his new post on September 1, 1995.)

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H.A. Acland and Miss D.F. Chissell
The engagement is announced between Harry, son of Mr and Mrs David Acland, of Notgrove, Gloucestershire, and Diana, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Tom Chissell, of Cowgrove, near Wimborne, Dorset.

Mr B.S. Coppins and Miss J.M. Thomas
The engagement is announced between Benjamin Stephen, elder son of Mr Frank Coppins and the late Mrs Daffodil Coppins, of Burnham on Crouch, Essex, and Joanna Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Thomas, of Willand Old Village, Devon.

Mr D.O.M. Haslam and Miss C.R.J. Pope
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr Michael and the Hon Mrs Haslam, of The Orangery, Felix Hall, Kelvedon, Essex, and Clare, second daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel J.J.B. Pope and of Mrs J.J.B. Pope, of Upton Grove, Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

Mr J.W.H. Thompson and Miss C.H. Kerrison
The engagement is announced between James, only son of Mrs E.M. Thompson and the late Mr Peter Thompson, of Bridgnorth, Shropshire, and Claire, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Kerrison, of Haddiscoe, Norfolk.

Marriages

Mr R.A.L. Crittall and Miss H.C. Whitbread
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 10, at the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Northleach, of Mr Robert Crittall, son of Mr and Mrs John Crittall, of Chilworth, Surrey, to Miss Henrietta Whitbread, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Whitbread, of Turkdean, Gloucestershire.

The Right Rev Michael Mann, KCVO, and Canon Philip Brown officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Anna Premantle, Amy Healy, Roslyn Wikley, Olivia Sladen, Emily Whitbread and Dominic Steele. Mr Justin Young was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Mr M.V. de Wesselow and Miss K.M. Awdry
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 10, 1994, at St Michael's, Melksham, of Mr Mark de Wesselow, son of Mr and Mrs Ivan de Wesselow, to Miss Katharine Awdry, daughter of Mr and Mrs Daniel Awdry. The Rev Michael Pain and Canon Arthur Suffrin officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Annabel and Harry Scott, Richard and Edmund Massey, Arabella Chute and Alexander and Amy Bell. Mr Simon White was best man.

Mr A.L. Lindsay and Miss L.J. Davenhill
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 10, 1994, at St Mary's, Harvington, Worcestershire, between Mr Ludovic Lindsay, eldest son of the late the Hon Patrick Lindsay and of Lady Amabel Lindsay, of London, W11, and Miss Lucy Davenhill, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Davenhill, of Belbroughton, Worcestershire. The Rev G.R. Tucker officiated.

TRADE: 071 481 1982
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313
FAX: 071 782 7828

Draw near to me and hear this: from the beginning I have never spoken in secret, and at its time of fulfilment I was there.
Isaiah 48 : 16 (REB)

BIRTHS

ALABASTER - On December 10th at Salisbury Hospital, to Felicity (née Daniell) and Simon, a daughter, Zoë Charlotte Margaret.

ANDREWS - On 5th December 1994, to Catherine (née Morphead) and Guy, a beautiful daughter, Georgina.

COSTER - On December 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Isabelle (née Lesaffre) and Cyrille, a beautiful baby boy, Edouard.

DAUGAS - On Sunday 27th November 1994 at Clinique Notre Dame de la Merci, St Raphael, France, to Tamsin (née Moon) and Jean Marc, a daughter, Charlotte Augusta Marie.

GUEST - On 29th November at University College Hospital, to Jessica (née Hibbs) and Robert, a daughter, Lydia Grace Jemima.

KALLIARETSOS - On December 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Alkis and George, a fine son, Constantine, a brother for Rosanna and Melina. We thank doctors, midwives and all nursing staff.

LUNDBERG - On December 9th, to Felicity (née Foll) and Philip, a son, Alexander John.

MANN - On December 7th, to Sophie (née Pattman) and James, a son, Harry John Benedict.

MEDCALF - On December 12th, to Debbie (née Conn) and Michael, a beautiful baby girl, Emily Paig.

OGDEN - On December 2nd 1994, to Mandy (née Otway) and Michael, a son, Christopher Michael.

O'NEILL - On 7th December, to Juanita and Trevor, a beautiful daughter, Catherine Frances Rose.

RANDALL - On December 10th, to Karen (née Pollock) and Peter, a daughter, Nicola Karen Alexandra, a sister for Sarah.

BIRTHS

SALVESEN - On November 30th, to Louise (née Rowe) and Jeremy, a son, Toby Christian, a brother for Oliver and Raleigh.

SEYMOUR-WILLIAMS - On December 11th, at the Mount Elizabeth Hospital, Singapore, to Diane (née Wilson) and Jonathan, a son, (Roderick St. John Lloyd), a brother to Sasha.

SYMONS - On December 10th, to Helen (née Sahin) and Peter, a son, Tom.

TRIGG - On 7th December 1994, to Katherine (née Smith) and Richard, a son, James Richard Spicer.

WESSON - On 29th November, to Amanda and Kevin, a Tiffie Sue daughter and sister to Thomas, Alice Emily.

DEATHS

ACTON DAVIS - On 9th December, Michael James, just before his 75th birthday, Beloved husband of Elizabeth, loved and respected father of Jonathan, Nicola and Dunnoy and dear grandfather to Charlotte, Matthew and Poppy. Funeral Service at 11.30 am on Monday 19th December 1994 at St Peter's Church, Kensington Park Road, London W11, followed by private cremation. No flowers please, but donations to Sherlingham R.N.I.I., 57 Regis Avenue, Sheringham, Norfolk.

BAILY GIBSON - On December 11th at Dalves House Nursing Home, Kensington, London, aged 86 years. Diana Rose Baily Gibson, dearly loved aunt of Mike, Tim, Simon and Jane. At her request cremation private and no flowers.

BRUNNER - William Thomas, beloved Priest, friend, son and brother. Funeral 10 am Saturday December 17th at St Peter's Church, Leigham Court Road, SW16. No flowers by request but donations to Care Projects, 178 Lancaster Road, W11.

CAMPBELL - On 9th December 1994, Victoria Maria (Torie) aged 73 years of Monnthatan. Daughter of The Honourable Ronald and Mrs Alexandra Douglas, widow of Lt. Colonel Gillachrist Campbell. Mother of Maria, Sophie and Catherine, stepmother of Caroline and grandmother. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Mendham, on Saturday 17th December at 11 am.

CARTWRIGHT - On 12th December 1994, peacefully, Oona Eileen. Funeral Service at the Lady Chapel, Chichester Cathedral, Wednesday 21st December at 11 am. No flowers by request but if desired, donations may be made to The Chichester Cathedral Development Trust c/o Edward White & Son, 5 South Pallant, Chichester (0243) 782136.

DOWNING - Rev. Edward Nalder ("Joe"), peacefully on 8th December 1994 at The Royal Victoria Hospital, Edinburgh; beloved husband of the late Sybil and a dear dad and father-in-law; C.F. 4th Battalion, 2 Para Brigade. ("Holy Joe") 1942-5; for many years a devoted parish priest, and latterly Priest-in-Charge, Rosslyn Chapel, Roslin, near Edinburgh. 1979-91. No funeral service but by kind permission of the Earl and Countess of Rosslyn a Memorial Service at Rosslyn Chapel will be held on Saturday 14th January 1995 at 11 am to which all friends are warmly invited.

DUNN - Bob, died peacefully at home on December 9th. Private cremation. Donations only to John Ronalde Hospice. Date of Memorial Service to be announced later.

EYRES - (née McClean) Coralie Vivienne Irene, beloved wife of Howard William Eyres and loving daughter of John and Doris McClean, passed peacefully away on Sunday 11th December 1994. Dearest sister and aunt. Her love will remain with us always. Service at Christ Church, Copse Hill, Wimbledon, Friday 16th December at 1.15 pm, followed by committal at Putney Vale Crematorium 2 pm. Flowers to Frenk, Paine, 6 Coombe Lane, SW20. Donations to British Heart Foundation.

FISHER - On December 9th, suddenly in hospital, Professor Ronald Frank Fisher M.D., D.Sc., F.R.C.S. Much loved husband of Barbara and a very dear father of William and Janet. Thanksgiving and Memorial Service at Purley Baptist Church, Banstead Road, on Monday December 19th at 2pm. Donations in his memory for Baptist Missionary Society (B.M.S.) may be sent to J.B. Shakespeare Ltd., 67 George Street, Croydon, CR0 1LD.

FRASER - On Monday December 12th 1994, Angus Hugh aged 55. The much loved husband of Libby and father of Sophie, Camilla and Emma. Private family funeral. Memorial Service on Monday 20th February 1995 at 2.30 pm at The Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Tysoe, Warwickshire.

GROVE - On December 10th 1994, peacefully in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Ronald Edmund of Little Shelford (late of Shell and Phillips). Beloved husband of Rosemary, loving father of Nicholas and a very dear grandfather and father-in-law. Funeral Service to take place at Cambridge City Crematorium West Chapel on Monday December 19th at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o H.J. Palmin Ltd., 45 High Street, Linton, Cambridge CB1 6HS.

HANBURY - Peacefully on 15th December 1994, at her home in Dalgety Bay, Fife, Betsy, aged 81 years. A much loved wife of the late Raymond Lycett Hanbury, a loving mother and grandmother. Sadly missed by all the family. Funeral Service at St Columba's Church, Aberdour, on Friday 16th December at 10.30 am, thereafter to Dunfermline Crematorium arriving 11.30 am, to which all friends are invited.

JOHNSTON - Mary Evelyn (Mollie), Chevalier of the Order of Leopold II, Belgium, in her 94th year, peacefully in Sunningdale on 10th December. Beloved widow of the late Cyril F. Johnston O.B.E. World Famous Bell Founder. Adored mother of the late Arthur Johnston and Rosemary Price and loving grandmother of Sasha and Arabelle. Family funeral only, no flowers please, donations to the Passage Day Care Centre, Westminster c/o Lines Bannister Company, 69 High Street, Ascot, Berks. SL5 7HP. Thanksgiving Service to be announced in January.

LETCHWORTH - On December 10th, in hospital, Anthony Thomas, aged 54 years. Dearly loved husband of Gisella, father of Anna, Nick and Pippa, and brother. Much beloved and respected by his many friends, colleagues and patients. Funeral Service at St Peter's Catholic Church, Winchester, on Friday 16th December at 12.15 pm. Family flowers only please. Any donations to The Tony Letchworth Memorial Fund c/o Jno Steel & Son Ltd., Chesil House, Winchester.

MACKENZIE - Arthur George Landseer, Sculptor, known as George Kennethson, aged 84. On 10th December 1994, at home. Greatly missed by his wife Eileen and all his family and friends. Funeral Service will be held at St Peter's Church, Oundle, on Friday 16th December at 11am.

MAKGILL-CRICHTON-MAITLAND - On December 12th, Barbara (née Armytage) of Weymouth and late of Skyreholme, Yorkshire, mother of Judith du Boulay and Sarah Beacn. Thanksgiving Service 3 pm Friday 16th December at Holy Trinity, Weymouth. No flowers, but donations if wished to The Lantern, 2 Ranelagh Road, Weymouth, DT4 7JD.

MANSFIELD - Dr. Ruth Evelyn MBE, FFA, RCS, suddenly at home on 10th December. Dearly loved wife of the late Leonard, very dear mother of Charles and Mary, much loved mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother. Service at Christchurch, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1, on Wednesday 21st December at 12 noon, followed by cremation at South London Crematorium, Rowan Road, SW16. Flowers or donations for Friends of Vellore c/o Yeatman & Son, Funeral Directors, 384 Norwood Road, SE27 9AA.

MARK - Mary Trewent (née Rowland), suddenly at her home on 9th December, loved and loving wife of James and mother of Timothy, Imogen, Miles, Paul and Virginia and grandmother to ten grandchildren. Funeral at the Church of the Ascension, Dartmouth Row, London SE10, at 2 pm on Friday 16th December. No flowers please but donations to St Christopher's Fellowship, 53 Warwick Road, London SW5 or to Amnesty International.

MORRIS - On 12th December, peacefully at St John's Hospice, Lancaster. Margaret Sylvia Morris, former Headmistress of Kendal High School, much loved sister of Christopher and Joan. Funeral, Tuesday 20th December 2 pm at St Thomas' Church, Crosscrake, nr. Kendal. Family flowers only but donations if desired to St Thomas' Church or St John's Hospice. Enquiries to Hayes & Parkinson Ltd. (0539) 720105.

PARFITT - On December 11th, in the Royal Bournemouth Hospital, suddenly, after a long illness bravely borne, Margaret Alice, librarian and loved wife of Professor Geoffrey Parfitt, formerly of Imperial College, Ibadan, Zaria and Kano. Funeral Service at Bournemouth Crematorium at 1.30 pm on Friday 16th December. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the Bournemouth Hospital Appeal c/o W Smith & Sons Funeral Directors, 659 Wimborne Road, Bournemouth, BH9 2AR, tel: (0202) 528818.

POLLING - Elizabeth Jane, on December 10th, peacefully at home after a long illness bravely fought. Equestrian Journalist and Horsewoman, much loved, dearly missed. Private funeral Isle of Man. Memorial Service at St Paul's Church, Chipperfield, Herts., on Thursday December 29th at 3 pm. Flowers welcome.

RALPH - On December 12th peacefully at home - Evelyn Marion, beloved wife of Peter, mother of Richard and Patrick, and "Matriarch". Funeral private. Donations if desired to Pilgrims Hospice, 56 London Road, Canterbury CT2 8JY.

RENFREW - On December 12th, peacefully at home in Cambridge, Lena Renfrew (née Savage), aged 90, widow of Archie Renfrew, much loved mother of Colin and grandmother of Helena, Alban and Magnus. Funeral Service at 11.45 am on Monday 19th December at the Cambridge City Crematorium, East Chapel.

RIXSON - Denis, Fenn, Air Commodore, CVO, OBE, QFC, AFC, on December 10th, peacefully at home, very much loved by Hope, Denis and Elizabeth. Funeral Service at Chichester Crematorium on Thursday December 15th at 12 noon. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to RAF Benevolent Fund may be sent to L.F. Lisbett & Son, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex. (07730) 813264.

SHUCKBURGH - On 12th December, at home in his sleep, Sir Evelyn Shuckburgh. Private cremation. Remembrance service after Christmas. Enquiries tel: (0491) 612433.

SUTTON - On December 9th, peacefully at home, Thomas Francis, loving and dearly loved husband of Mabl., father and grandfather. Private family cremation. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, for the Marie Curie Nurses Fund c/o R. Locke & Son, Carillon Corner, Bratles, Banbury, Oxon. OX16 5AZ.

TOULMIN - Formerly Porter, on December 11th 1994, in hospital, Jessie, the dearly loved wife of the late John Henton Toulmin, and will be sadly missed by family and friends. The funeral service and committal will take place on Friday December 16th at Preston Crematorium at 10.45 am. Enquiries, Brown Funeral Home, Preston, tel: (0772) 726389.

WALLINGTON - Ian Harry MB., BS., MRCS., LRCP, Plas Cain, Llanfechain, Powys. Passed away peacefully at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, on December 11th 1994, aged 69 years. Dearly loved husband of Jean, dear father of John and Peter, much loved grandfather of Natasha and Jessica, brother of Dr. M.P. Wallington. Funeral Service at St Garmon's, Llanfechain, on Saturday December 17th at 2 pm followed by Interment in the Churchyard. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to St Garmon's Church. Enquiries please to I. Jackson & Sons, Funeral Directors, Llanfyllin, Powys. tel: (0691) 648243.

WARDLE - John Malcolm LLB. loved and loving husband of Pat and father of Geraldine, Jocelyn and Guy, died peacefully at home on 12th December 1994. A Service of Remembrance will be held at 11 am on Tuesday 10th January 1995 at Birmingham Cathedral. Colmore Row, Birmingham. Donations (if desired) to Birmingham Cathedral Churchyard Restoration Fund.

WESTWOOD - On December 11th, in Tortola, BVI, aged 78, peacefully after a long illness, Neville, husband of Joyce, father of Vivian.

WISE - On December 12th, peacefully, Stewart Gordon, CBE, DFC, RAF (Retd.), husband of the late Marjorie Wise and very dear husband of Betty (formerly Westcott), father of Douglas and grandfather of Dick and Jo. Service at Cheltenham Crematorium on Monday December 19th at 2 pm. Family flowers only but donations may be sent to RAF Benevolent Fund, 67 Portland Place, London W1N 4AR.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

EDELMAN - Maurice Edelman M.P. vividly remembered today and every day with love and pride by his wife Till and daughters Sonia and Natasha.

UBBELOHDE - Professor A.R.J.P., FRS. On this his birthday. So missed. Georgina Mary.

MARRIAGES

MacLAREN-PURNELL - On December 3rd 1994 at Academy of Sacred Heart Chapel, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, James Martin MacLaren, elder son of Prof. and Mrs D M MacLaren of The Free University, Amsterdam. The Netherlands, to Clea Purnell, only daughter of Mrs R S Cotton of Kenner, Louisiana.

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OBITUARIES

ANTOINE PINAY

Antoine Pinay, Prime Minister and Finance Minister of France in 1952 and Finance Minister, 1958-60, died yesterday aged 102. He was born on December 30, 1891.



IN TWO relatively brief spells in charge of his country's financial affairs, Antoine Pinay laid the foundations for France's postwar economic recovery by halting galloping inflation and restoring the strength of the French franc. He did so on the first occasion in 1952 by introducing drastic austerity measures and winning the confidence of small savers by launching what became known as the "Pinay bond" which was indexed to gold. It enabled savers to convert cash and gold stashed away in the early unstable postwar years into legal, tax-exempt savings.

Six years later he introduced a "new franc" worth 100 old francs. The success of both measures led to his becoming an enduring oracle of economic wisdom to successive generations of politicians.

The popularity that sprang from these achievements was based less on any outstanding intellectual qualities or sense of mission in Antoine Pinay than on the fact that he stood for some traditional economic concepts dear not only to conservatives but, in their heart of hearts, to most Frenchmen. His best-known dictum was "un sou est un sou" (a penny is a penny) — a simple but effective slogan which brought home to his countrymen the dangers of living beyond their means.

Pinay was *Président du Conseil* for seven months in 1952 under the Fourth Republic presidency of Vincent Auriol and was Minister of Finance in de Gaulle's 1958 Government and, from January 1959 to 1960, in the first Government of the Fifth Republic, headed by Michel Debré. In all these offices he was considered a success.

Antoine Pinay was born at St Chamond in the Loire department and left school at 15. His father was a hat manufacturer — incidentally, the man who introduced into France the Italian straw hat.

During the First World War the younger Pinay won the Médaille Militaire and the Croix de Guerre, and was badly wounded in his right shoulder. All his life he was to suffer from this. In 1917 he married Marguerite Fouletier, and inherited from her family the tannery at St Chamond which he managed profitably. In 1929 he became Mayor of his native town, a post he retained until 1977.

His wife bore him two daughters and a son. She fell a victim to an incurable mental disease in the 1930s and it is possible that this break-up of his family circle helped to make Pinay decide to go into national politics.

In 1936 he was elected to the National Assembly as a deputy for Loire. Becoming a senator in 1939, he, like the majority of Frenchmen, followed Marshal Pétain, the leader of the Vichy Government which collaborated with the occupying Nazi German forces. He was thus one of hundreds of senior French officials who at the Liberation were stripped of their right to hold public office. A jury, however, ruled that he had done no wrong and he was one of the few conservatives elected to the Second Constituent Assembly in 1946. He served in the Radical Government of 1949 as Minister of State and in two other shorter-lived governments as Minister of Public Works.

In March 1952 he was appointed Prime Minister and, although it lasted only seven months, the Pinay Government of 1952 was remarkable for a number of reasons. It was the first to be presided over by a prominent Vichy supporter and it led to the break-up of de Gaulle's Rassemblement du Peuple Français (RPF). A number of RPF deputies decided to support Pinay, attracted by a financial policy which seemed to make sense; de Gaulle, in disgust, abandoned the RPF.

Prices, which had been rising continuously in France since the Liberation in 1944, took a downward turn — at least during the first five months of Pinay's administration. But then the franc recovered and the first signs of France's rapid growth in industrial production began to be noticed.

None of these things was due in any great measure to the Government — price stabilisation being in part the result of the end of the bout of world inflation caused by the Korean War. But the Pinay administration restored confidence and ended the endemic monetary fever in France. What was called "the Pinay miracle" established Pinay as the undoubted leader of the moderate Right.

Over colonial problems, the impact of which was to cause the fall of the Fourth Republic, Pinay was cautiously liberal; indeed, his attitude towards Algeria was more moderate than that of many Socialists. He was the first politician to call on General de Gaulle in May 1958 when France clearly risked a military coup d'état.

As Finance Minister from 1958 he was responsible, during the first year of the Fifth Republic, for the conservative policy of *austérité et sévérité*, which enabled France to profit from devaluation and to enter the active phase of the Common Market under good auspices.

He left office in 1960 having refused to resign, the announcement from the Elysée simply stating that "The Head of the State has seen M Pinay who has ceased to exercise the functions of Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs". The basic reason for Pinay's withdrawal was that he disagreed increasingly with de Gaulle's policy of drawing France away from close co-operation with the United States — a policy which culminated in the French withdrawal in 1966 from Nato's integrated military command. It was announced that Pinay's successor, Wilfred Baumgartner, would continue the Pinay financial policy.

After the end of the Algerian War in 1962, Pinay defended the European concept of supranationalism and the Atlantic Alliance, and increasingly he appeared as the most widely acceptable leader of anti-Gaullism to large sections of right-wing opinion.

In 1965, when his candidature as President was being sought by centre politicans, he gave a sensational interview in which he said that not only had large bribes been offered to him to stand, in the form of election expenses, but that he had been threatened with public revelations about his private life which would end any future political career for him if he refused. He reiterated that he had no intention of standing. Asked about his attitude to the de Gaulle regime, he said that, even as far as the Common Market was concerned, the position of the French Government was not entirely wrong, that he did not oppose the *force de frappe*, and that he thought the country's financial situation was much less bad than the detractors of de Gaulle made out.

Pinay supported Georges Pompidou's candidature in the presidential election of 1969. He was offered, but refused, a place in the first Pompidou Government headed by Jacques Chaban-Delmas. However, the President frequently consulted the "sage of St Chamond" on economic matters.

What distinguished Pinay from most politicians of the postwar period was his popularity which made him into a national figure. Ordinary people considered that he was a politician *malgré lui* and it was noted that when, in 1952, President Auriol decided to ask Pinay to form a government, he was not haunting the corridors of the Elysée but had to be fished out of a railway carriage at the Gare de Lyon, en route for home. When he said "I never asked to be Prime Minister. I am here to carry out a policy and if there is to be a different policy, I shall not remain here," he was believed.

Unlike so many French politicians, Pinay was neither an intellectual nor a lawyer. He disliked Paris high society and — even when Prime Minister — waited his turn even when having his hair cut.

Françoise Giroud wrote of him at this time: "Sixty-one but looking like 50, grey hair, a bulging forehead showing temperament, lively brown eyes, a sense of the ridiculous, somewhat liverish, a liking for country things, the art of never spending a franc more than he intends, no gift for foreign languages, with his air of being entirely enclosed in a first-quality thin cloth, the all-wool and fresh complexioned Pinay is the spitting image of many Frenchmen of his age who daily curse the government."

In January 1973, at the age of 82, he was chosen as France's first Ombudsman. The French *médiateur* has a limited role since his services can be called on only by deputies, but nevertheless the post was designed to humanise relations between the general public and the administration. Pinay's age gave some reason to doubt that he could supply great vigour — he held the post for only a year — but his long experience of government and his independence of mind made his choice a popular one, at least with the older generation and with the conservative classes.

De Gaulle is reported to have said when Pinay once argued against him at the wrong moment at Cabinet meetings: "M Pinay is mistaking the Republic he belongs to." As a politician, Pinay did not fit into the Fifth Republic, nor was he a really typical figure of the Fourth. His epitaph is that he was, above all, a representative Frenchman.

Antoine Pinay's wife and son predeceased him. He is survived by two daughters.

MADAME GRÈS

Madame Grès, haute couturier, died in the southern Var region of France on November 24 1993 aged 89. She was born in Paris in 1903.



MADAME GRÈS was the most discreet of the great Parisian haute couturiers, a tiny, turbanned, enigmatic figure. She seldom spoke to the press and never allowed herself to be photographed. Since 1990, having presented her last show three years earlier, she had almost completely disappeared from public view. One of her last public appearances was to distribute the fashion awards at the Paris Opera in 1988. It seems almost fitting, therefore, that her death should only now be reported to the French newspaper *Le Monde*, almost a year after the event.

However anonymous she chose to remain, the timeless sculptural quality of her work, and in particular her draped jersey, Grecian-style column dresses guaranteed her near deification among her colleagues in Paris, and a loyal following on both sides of the Atlantic for fifty years.

In America, where she was known, much to her horror, as "the Empress of Drape", her clients included Grace Kelly and Jackie Kennedy. She was extremely well respected in Paris, where she was known as a woman of ferocious integrity, who would never dream of compromising on standards. So much so that when Tom Wolfe referred some years ago to "the good Madame Grès", everyone in the fashion business knew precisely what was meant.

She had one of the longest fashion careers of this century, spanning the years from Vionnet to Lacroix, and every designer in between. Her longevity was down to various factors, most importantly the knack of sifting the gold from the dross of any new fashion movement and incorporating the new without sacrificing any of the punctilious standards for which her house was known.

For example, one of her swansongs in her last collection in 1987 was an unashamedly erotic white draped jersey knit creation, which barely covered a few floating panels of silk mousseline. It was both modern and indisputably classic Grès.

Her clothes were never totally of their time, nor were they old-fashioned. When Coco Chanel said that designers must beware of originality because it could so easily lead to fancy dress, she might well have had in her mind the creations of Christian Dior or Jacques Fath. But Grès stood out as an example of Chanel's philosophy.

Grès did this by having one new idea and sticking with it all her life. This was working with the cut and cling of jersey and wool for day, silk for the evening. In her case, her experiments on this limited canvas continued throughout her career and she used them to push forward her philosophy of dress. In particular, she invented a way of making long tunics, draped in a Grecian style, where the folds fell naturally round the body. To do this, she modelled each dress directly on to the mannequin, with no pattern and the bare minimum of cutting.

Mariano Fortuny had already been looking to Greece for inspiration before, but in Grès's case, the results were not only classical but completely contemporary. For Grès the cut was everything, vastly more important than decoration.

The same purist approach extended to the way in which she presented her clothes to press and buyers, almost as pieces of sculpture rather than dresses. Models were chosen for their look of detached refinement and the atmosphere at her shows was quiet, almost monastic, and never sullied by raucous music. Only the dress mattered and accessories were kept simple.

Germaine Émilie Krebs, as she was born, had originally wanted to be a sculptor. Family disapproval, however, and lack of funds prevented this and she began to design clothes and to make *toiles* to sell to fashion houses. She became the chief designer for the house of Alix, founded mysteriously for her in 1934 by a man whose name she never divulged. This was forced to close during the war, and Grès took her daughter to the safety of the South of France.

She returned in 1942 to reopen under the name of Grès, which was the name under which her husband — the Russian artist Serge Czerefkov — always signed his work.

Her first show under the Occupation was deliberately provocative, all of the clothes being made in red, white and blue, the colours of the tricolour. The message was not lost. All Paris warmed to her courage while the Germans fumed impotently. Grès had taken the moral high ground in fashion and it remained hers for the rest of her life.

Madame Grès continued for the next forty years to do what she did best. She diversified, like many of the haute couture houses, into perfume in 1960 when she launched Cabochard, and Cabotine followed in the 1970s.

But she was basically an haute couturier of the old school, not a marketer, and résisted the tide towards starting a ready-to-wear line for as long as possible (she did so only in 1980). In the mid-1980s the house was bought by the French businessman Bernard Tapie, who sold it on to Esterel. It was later sold to the Japanese business group Yagi Tsusho.

Madame Grès had been honorary president of the powerful Chambre Syndicale, which has regulated couture in the capital since 1972.

She leaves her daughter Anne.

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THE TIMES

Christmas Greetings
December 24th

Make this Christmas special with a message in The Times

Is this Christmas special to you?
Is it your first Christmas together?
Is it your child or grandchild's first Christmas?

Whatever the reason for this year being special, mark it for posterity in The Times on 24th December and a copy will be sent to you as a keepsake.

EXAMPLES

GORDON Chris. Just to say we really appreciate you. Happy Christmas, your family.

Ben & Janna
We are really happy to be spending this Christmas together with you.
Hope Santa brings you what you want, he has already brought us what we want.
We love you both very much.
Mum and Dad

A 3 line message will cost only £25.00 inc VAT

A Boxed advertisement will cost only £65.00 inc VAT

To place your message call 071 481 4000 or fax 071 782 7827

SIR JOHN TEMPLE

Sir John Temple, Conservative MP for the City of Chester, 1956-74, died on December 10 aged 84. He was born on June 9, 1910.



JOHN TEMPLE was the archetypal Tory backbencher of his day, unshakeably loyal to his party and his leaders, deeply rooted in his native county and devoted to the Army in which he served during the war. He was a farmer and looked it, a noted fisherman of salmon and trout and, although he never attempted to shine in the Commons, he could be relied on to man the committees and leave the more glamorous side to others.

John Meredith Temple was educated at Charterhouse and Clare College, Cambridge, and, though he could easily have obtained deferment in the Second World War, he volunteered unhesitatingly to join the Army. He served in several theatres, was mentioned in dispatches and was briefly ADC to the Governor of South Australia.

He was a dairy farmer on a fair scale when he was chosen to fight a by-election for the city of Chester at the end of November 1956. It was the first test of public opinion after the Suez fiasco and a bad time to fight even a blue-chip constituency such as Chester. The Tory majority fell predictably — from just over 11,000 to 6,348. By the Macmillan "You never had it so good" election of 1959, however, it was back to 10,355 and Temple had enviable majorities for the rest of his career — except in 1966, when Harold Wilson's second election victory saw Chester still only barely Conservative, with Labour a mere 2,803 votes behind.

In the Commons he was secretary of his party's housing and local government committees and from 1966 to 1968 he was vice-chairman of the Conservative finance committee. He became vice-chairman of the British executive of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. He took a considerable interest in Latin America and was prominent in the Anglo-Colombian Society. His services were recognised by the award of decorations from both Colombia and Venezuela.

After he decided not to fight the February 1974 election, Temple devoted much of his time to his county of Cheshire, where he served as Deputy Lieutenant and High Sheriff. He was a good friend of Chester Cathedral and vice-president of his local branch of the Army Benevolent Association. Fishing took up a great deal of his time. He was president of the National Council of Salmon Netsmen, an officer of the Salmon and Trout Association and vice-president of the Association of River Authorities. He was also a major figure in the Royal Horticultural Society and the National Farmers' Union. He was knighted in 1983.

Temple married, in 1942, Nancy Hare. She survives him with a son and daughter.

ELECTRIC TRACTION ON THE METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.

For some time past Londoners have been eager for information as to when the conversion of the "underground" railways from steam to electric traction, which has now been in progress for about four years, was likely to become an accomplished fact. So far as the Inner Circle is concerned, no date has, we understand, yet been fixed for even the experimental running of electric trains; but on the Metropolitan extension from Baker-street to Harrow, and thence over the new line opened about six months ago to Uxbridge, trial trips by electricity with the new "corridor" rolling-stock have been taking place for some weeks past, and yesterday what is likely to be the first of a series of semi-public "openings" was celebrated. The general public will still have to wait until January 1 before they are privileged to travel by electricity even over this section of the Metropolitan, and then the service from Baker-street to Harrow and Uxbridge is likely still to be partially conducted by steam; but as an earnest of the advanced stage which their electrification has now reached, the authorities of this company yesterday afternoon conveyed a party of about 300 specially invited guests to Uxbridge and back with perfect safety and at a fair rate of speed without calling in the assistance of a steam locomotive at any stage of the journey. The trip was, moreover, performed in one of the brand-new corridor trains, consisting of two motor-cars and four "trailers," which have been provided for the new *régime*, and everything which took place conveyed the impression that those present were celebrating the beginning of a new era in the history of the old "underground" railways, from which smoke, dirt, and discomfort will be nearly banished. The guests assembled at 1 o'clock at the Hotel Great Central, where they were received by Sir Charles McLaren, M.P., the chairman of the Metropolitan Railway Company ... After luncheon, Sir C. McLaren made a short speech in which he said that when the line was thoroughly cleaned up, as they intended it should be, he felt sure that a greatly increased traffic would result and the costly expenditure would prove very profitable to shareholders (Cheers) ...

The party then walked from the hotel to Baker-street Station, where a six-car electric corridor train was in waiting, having seating accommodation for 362 passengers. The type of car employed is similar to that in use on the Central London and other "tubes," and it also resembles the cars employed on the electrified sections of the North-Eastern and Lancashire and Yorkshire Railways. The adoption of the "corridor" system no doubt involves a considerable loss of seating capacity as compared with the compartment type of carriage, and there is also some sacrifice of privacy. But compensation is found in the freedom with which passengers can move through the train, and experience has proved that this greatly tends to shorten the station stops, as the work of selecting a seat is done in the train instead of on the platform. Electrical heaters are provided in every car, and a very agreeable temperature was maintained. The lighting also was excellent. No opportunity was given to observe the station work except at the termini, as the run was a "through" one in both directions. The distance of 18 miles was covered in less than 40min. each way, but no attempt was made to attain a high speed. Every one present seemed highly pleased with the demonstration and the authorities of the Metropolitan Railway Company were warmly congratulated upon the success of the trip.

ON THIS DAY

December 14 1904

London's first underground railway, the Metropolitan was opened in January 1863 between Paddington and Farringdon Street with three classes of travel.

THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14 1994

NEWS

Human barrier stops Russian army

■ The main Russian army column advancing into Chechenia was stopped in its tracks by the appeals of a crowd of unarmed civilians and a Russian democratic politician.

Russian officers advancing towards Grozny, the capital of the rebel republic, had their way blocked by hundreds of Chechens waving placards, and appeared to be confused and frightened by contradictory signals from Moscow and the prospect of large-scale civilian casualties ..... **Pages 1, 14**

Britain continues Pergau funding

■ Government funding for the Pergau dam project in Malaysia will continue despite a High Court ruling that the Foreign Secretary, Douglas Hurd, acted unlawfully. Mr Hurd told the Commons that the money would come from sources outside the overseas aid programme ..... **Page 1**

Asylum for gay

A former Romanian soldier who is homosexual has been granted asylum in Britain in a ruling that could trigger a flood of similar applications from gay men and women ..... **Page 1**

Duchess aids test

The Duchess of York has disclosed that she has had two Aids tests, one before she was married to Prince Andrew and one since the couple separated ..... **Page 1**

Researchers banned

Two researchers who found their way into Tony Blair's Westminster office were barred from Parliament for six weeks by Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker .... **Page 1**

Rail cuts threat

John Major faced demands to halt rail privatisation after a consultants' report warned that lack of funds could lead to the closure of nearly half the rail network ..... **Page 2**

Anorexia suicide

A twin who suffered from anorexia nervosa, took a fatal overdose of sleeping pills to end her suffering and to free her twin from the stranglehold of the illness, an inquest heard ..... **Page 3**

Flawed English

Controversy arose over GCSE English exams as it was disclosed that more than half of the pupils at a leading comprehensive were undermarked ..... **Page 7**

Hypnosis review

The Government is to review the law governing stage hypnotism following a string of complaints over acts in pubs and clubs and growing safety fears ..... **Page 8**

Loan shark flood

Families made homeless by flooding in Paisley, Strathclyde, have been warned not deal with loan sharks charging up to 1,000 per cent interest ..... **Page 9**

Priestly promotion

An Irish parish priest was appointed leader-elect of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland. Mgr Sean Brady said that his parishioners will be amazed ..... **Page 10**

Elephant safe haven

Tanzania agreed to ban the hunting of elephants which stray into hunting areas along the border with Kenya after revelations that three semi-tame bulls from Kenya had been shot by white hunters ..... **Page 12**

Serb battle plan

As the UN and Nato agonise about whether to leave Bosnia to its own devices, General Ratko Mladic, the Serb leader, is probably planning one of the most decisive battles of the war ..... **Page 13**

Clinton tax cuts

With a poll showing that his approval rating has slumped to 38 per cent, President Clinton will seek to revive his presidency with a tax cut promise ..... **Page 15**

Radar search for Culloden army

Archaeologists are to use ground probing radar in an attempt to locate the remains of the Duke of Cumberland's Redcoats who died at the battle of Culloden in 1746. The equipment, similar to that used to search for bodies at Frederick West's home in Gloucester, is being hired by the National Trust for Scotland at a cost of £2,500 ..... **Page 5**



DAVID JONES

Tony Blair with Ian Pearson (left), Labour candidate in the Dudley West by-election, canvassing at a meeting of former Tory voters. **Page 11**

BUSINESS

High streets: Britain's shops suffered poor sales in November and were forced to keep prices low to tempt consumers, new figures from the Confederation of British Industry showed fuelling retail fears of poor Christmas trade ..... **Page 23**

Airlines: British Airways is selling Caledonian Airways to Inspirations, the package tour operator, for £16.6 million. Caledonian, which was formed by British Airways from the rump of the charter operations of the old British Caledonian ..... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 3.0 points to close at 2946.4. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 80.2 to 80.4 after a fall from $1.5780 to $1.5620 and from DM2.4574 to DM2.4566 ... **Page 26**

SPORT

Cricket: England defeated Australia A by 31 runs in the World Series Cup in Melbourne to give a welcome boost to their public credibility and private self-esteem ..... **Page 44**

Football: The Football Association confirmed the lifting of Tottenham Hotspur's FA Cup ban and six-point league deduction but did not reduce the £1.5 million fine imposed on the club ..... **Page 42**

Rugby union: Adrian Spencer, a replacement for Cambridge in the Varsity match, will be suspended for a year after playing for a professional rugby league club ... **Page 40**

Racing: The Jockey Club is to speed up stewards' inquiries in an attempt to recoup £1 million a year in lost betting revenue ..... **Page 41**

ARTS

The year in books: The publishing business has always had its disputes but 1994 came close to burying that myth of gentlemanliness in the book trade ..... **Page 33**

Change of place: Britain's leading Wagner bass, John Tomlinson, has put down Wotan's spear to produce his first opera, *Oberto*, at the Grand Theatre in Leeds. He is also singing the title role ..... **Page 33**

The wrong note: Hans Andersen's tale of *The Little Match Girl* can be effectively dramatised, but Neil Bartlett has missed the mark in his Christmas production for the Lyric Hammersmith ..... **Page 34**

Pick of Piper: A new exhibition of John Piper's work proves that drawing in one medium means drawing on another ..... **Page 35**

FEATURES

The New Right: Martin Fletcher sees Washington reeling from the political changes of the Republican Revolution ..... **Page 16**

Valerie Grove: The tale behind the story of the 18th-century salonnière and high-spirited correspondent, Madame du Deffand ..... **Page 16**

Fashion: Jackets — nipped in at the waist and with shoulderpads — are worn with A-line or wrap skirts for a look which will continue into summer ..... **Page 14**

MEDIA

Alan Yentob: The lottery programme may be losing viewers, but BBC1's controller is not at all downhearted ..... **Page 32**

New pleasures: Why are the Great British Public switching off their television sets? ..... **Page 32**

THE PAPERS

Eastern Europe and Latin America have come to believe that rising prosperity supports democracy and vice versa. It's very much in the interest of the rich to keep their neighbours thinking that way

— *Washington Post*

Washington cannot help but sympathise with Mr Yeltsin. His task is to move decisively to depose Mr Dudayev, then end the bloodletting as quickly as he can lest he become hostage to Russia's nationalists and military — *New York Times*

Preview: Meeting Clark Gable's daughter, John Travolta's brother and Michelle Pfeiffer's sister in *Hollywood Kids* (ITV, 9pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss ploughs through Sky One's interminable *Scarlett* and discovers a turkey with legs ..... **Page 43**

Peace money

It is often said that the IRA is so indirectly dependent upon state subventions that it could never afford a British withdrawal. However the new money is spent, none of it must reach the men of violence ..... **Page 19**

Clean Roman hand

Signor Antonio Di Pietro has yet to reveal his plans. Italy may not have to wait long ..... **Page 19**

Small white hunters

Even if the demand to kill Africa's natural world may diminish, the process is likely to be too slow for many species ..... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

JOHN PATTEN

Even now the scale of government needs to be much reduced. Officialdom still spends more than 40 per cent of the nation's wealth. Big government, even if well run, is not good government ..... **Page 18**

GEOFFREY WHEATCROFT

Field sportsmen nowadays shrink also from the big-game hunting of a century ago, or even of Hemingway's time — large parties organised at great expense to shoot as many head of elephant or tiger as possible with the minimum of inconvenience ..... **Page 18**

PETER RIDDELL

Only if you believe that overseas aid should be focused solely on the relief of poverty in the Third World is it wrong for Britain to become involved in projects like Pergau. If you do not take that view, then it is a practical question of value for money ..... **Page 11**

OBITUARIES

Antoine Pinay, former French Prime Minister; **Madame Grès**, French couturier; **Sir John Temple**, Conservative MP for Chester, 1956-74 ..... **Page 21**

LETTERS

Case for the release of Myra Hindley; Labour's policy on the monarchy ..... **Page 19**



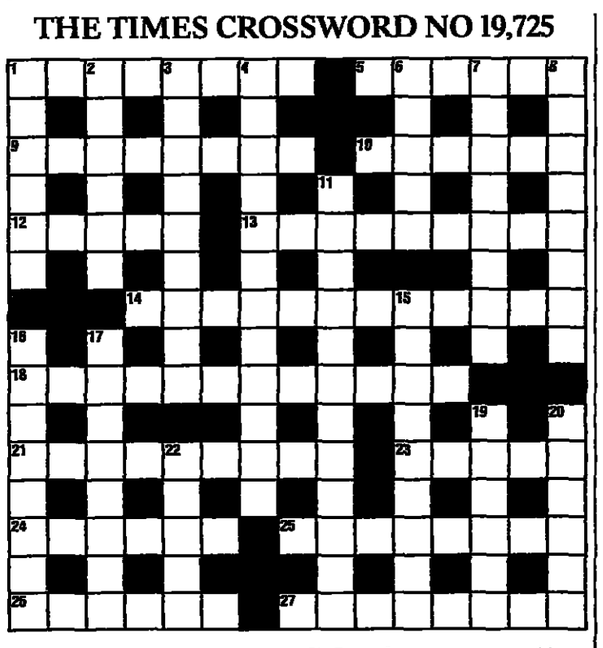
TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ CARTOON KID
Macauley Culkin gets animated, with a little help from some fantastic friends

■ LIFE AFTER 1989
Anne Applebaum on Ivan Klíma's first post-communist novel

THE CROSSWORD NO 19,725



ACROSS

1 Hide no longer from French horn leading a wind ensemble (8).
5 Slight problem with this Roman vessel (6).
9 The most inaccessible spot remains on the perimeter (8).
10 The silver tie's broken by one who is unfair to the elderly (6).
12 Date for an interval in a bar (5).
13 Land of Hope and Glory? (9).
14 Liturgy of ordinary chap about to make a petition (6,6).
18 Olaf, perhaps, has to check noise of birds (12).
21 Country-and-western music is obscene — inform the police (9).
23 Having sloped back one can be spotted, laughing (5).
24 Object becoming on ears (6).

Solution to Puzzle No 19.724

GIGANTIC FACTOR
LASSILB
ADMONITIONOUST
ZBKHBSC
INONESMINDSEYE
EIEURUN
RELINESCAMPBED
EPME
BEDEVILANCIENT
XNCMAER
PONTEFRACTCAKE
LONTETA
COMBTAKEORDERS
ILRUARO
ATHENEGRANDSON

DOWN

25 Pretend to encourage without using end of knout (8).
26 Bird note about the end of May discloses the prairie predator (6).
27 Always a boy of ten with paper round (5,3).

1 Coach with an iron produces a pitcher (6).
2 Separate farm butter if runny at the end (6).
3 Battle cry of hunter, possibly, sticking to promise? (9).
4 Helpful in a non-vocal number (12).
6 Bar of gold used in making other jewellery (5).
7 Stacks in Minch? Yes, if stormy! (8).
8 Hollow memorial stones in Christian refuge (8).
11 Veterans' TT is arranged for one who likes to change gear (12).
15 Club of highwaymen in business? (9).
16 Such lines show which of us are coming under pressure (8).
17 Endless welcome on a track is good for one (8).
19 Escape city area that is moist all round (6).
20 Hollow warning to sailors (6).
22 Spirit provided by landlord after midnight (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake Distrct	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Tivington, Somerset 16C (61F); lowest day max: Baltasound, Shetland 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway 1.06in, highest sunshine: Guernsey 5.4hr.

EVER THOUGHT OF MOVING WEST?
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FORECAST

☐ **General:** southern areas will have rain or drizzle early this evening. The Channel Isles and the southwest will stay cloudy with some drizzle but elsewhere the weather should clear this evening. It will be a cold night with patchy fog. The rest of the United Kingdom will have a fine evening and a frosty night with some mist and fog, although northeast Scotland, Orkney and Shetland will have sleet or snow.

Tomorrow the Channnel Islands and the southwest will be cloudy, with drizzle. The rest of the United Kingdom should have a dry, bright day. It will be cold everywhere.

☐ **London, SE, Central S England:** a little rain early this evening, clearer tonight, chance of patchy fog, dry and bright tomorrow. Wind northerly, becoming light. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **E Anglia, E, NE England:** mist and fog tonight, sunny tomorrow. Wind north, light. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **E, W Midlands, Wales, Central N, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** fog tonight, sunny tomorrow. Wind northerly, light. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England:** rain and drizzle. Wind westerly, moderate, becoming easterly, light, tomorrow. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** sleet or snow overnight, dry tomorrow with spells of sunshine. Wind northwesterly, fresh, becoming southerly, light, tomorrow. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **NW Scotland:** clear skies tonight, some sun tomorrow, cloudy later. Wind northwesterly, light, becoming southerly, strong. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Outlook:** after a frosty, foggy start on Thursday, the weather will turn milder again with rain.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.9	-	11	52	b	Liverpool	-	0.10	11	52	d
Anglesey	-	0.06	12	54	r	London	0.5	-	15	59	c
Aspatria	1.8	0.11	11	52	sh	Lowestoft	x				
Aviemore	0.5	0.14	9	48	sh	Manchester	-	0.11	14	57	r
Belfast	1.8	0.14	10	50	sh	Margate	-	-	15	59	c
Birmingham	0.4	-	15	59	c	Minehead	x				
Bognor R	0.5	-	14	57	c	Morecambe	x				
Bournem'th	-	-	14	57	c	Newcastle	4.3	-	13	55	b
Bristol	-	-	14	57	c	Newquay	0.1	-	14	57	c
Buxton	x					Norwich	0.7	-	15	59	c
Cardiff	-	-	13	55	c	Nottingham	-	-	14	57	c
Clacton	x					Oxford	-	0.02	13	55	d
Cleethorpes	x					Penzance	1.1	-	15	59	c
Colwyn Bay	0.1	0.06	14	57	sh	Plymouth	-	-	13	55	du
Cromer	0.7		14	57	c	Poole	-	-	14	57	c
Doncaster	0.1	0.02	15	59	r	Prestatyn	x	-	15	59	c
Eastbourne	-	-	13	55	c	Ross-o-wye	x				
Edinburgh	2.8	0.78	12	54	sh	Ryde	x				
Eskdalemuir	0.8	1.06	10	50	sh	Salcombe	x				
Exmouth	0.8	-	15	59	c	Sandown	x				
Falmouth	x	-	14	57	c	Saunton Snd	-	-	13	55	c
Fishguard	-	-	13	55	c	Scarboro'	x				
Folkestone	x					Scilly Isles	x				
Glasgow	0.9	0.63	11	52	sh	Shanklin	-	-	13	55	c
Guernsey	5.4	-	15	59	s	Shrewsbury	-	0.03	14	57	r
Hastings	-	-	13	55	c	Skegness	-	-	14	57	c
Hayling I.	x					Southport	-	0.10	11	52	sh
Herne Bay	2.6	-	14	57	b	Southsea	0.5	-	14	57	c
Hove	-	-	13	55	du	Stornoway	1.4	0.06	9	48	sh
Hunstanton	x					Swanage	-	-	13	55	c
Ilfracombe	x					Teignmouth	2.7	-	16	61	c
Isle of Man	1.9	0.13	12	54	b	Tenby	-	-	13	55	du
Jersey	x					Tiree	1.5	-	11	52	c
Knloss	2.9	0.21	9	48	r	Torquay	1.7	-	15	59	b
Leeds	1.7	-	13	55	b	Tynemouth	3.3	-	13	55	b
Lerwick	-	0.79	6	43	r	Ventnor	0.2	-	13	55	c
Leuchars	3.3	0.14	10	50	b	Weymouth	1.3	-	14	57	b
Littlehmptn	0.7	-	14	57	c						

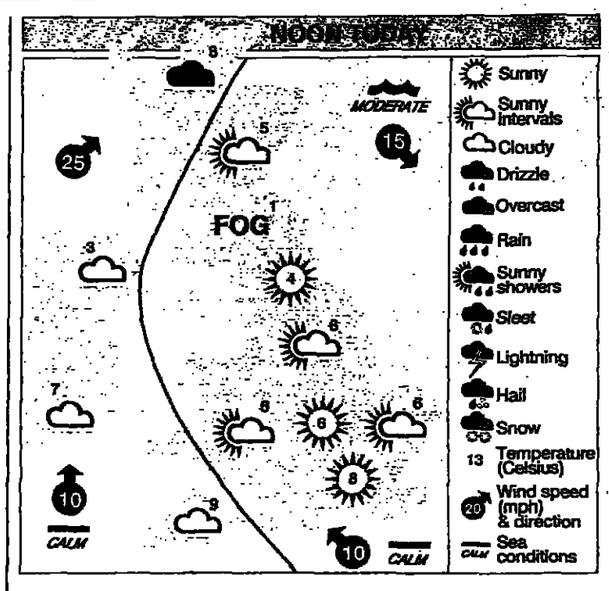
These are Monday's figures

ABROAD

Ajaccio	18	61	c	C'phagn	8	46	r	Majorca	17	63	c
Akrotiri	18	64	s	Corfu	16	61	s	Malaga	18	64	s
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Dublin	6	43	r	Malta	19	66	s
Algiers	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	15	59	s	Melb'rne	20	68	f
Amst'dm	11	52	f	Faro	18	64	c	Mexico C	18	68	s
Athens	18	64	c	Florence	10	50	c	Miami	25	77	c
Bahrain	18	64	f	Frankfurt	11	52	c	Milan	5	41	fg
Bangkok	32	90	c	Funchal	21	70	f	Montreal	-18	0	s
Barbados	29	84	f	Geneva	5	41	c	Moscow	-6	21	sn
Barcelona	14	57	s	Gibraltar	17	63	c	Munich	10	50	c
Beirut	18	64	f	Helsinki	1	34	c	Nairobi	23	73	f
Belgrade	13	55	s	Hong K	17	63	f	Naples	18	64	f
Berlin	9	48	f	Innsbrck	4	39	f	N Delhi	18	64	c
Bermuda	20	68	f	Istanbul	12	54	s	N York	-2	28	s
Biarritz	9	48	fg	Jeddah	26	79	f	Nice	12	54	c
Borde'x	6	43	fg	Jo'burg	19	66	s	Oslo	-3	27	c
Brussels	13	55	c	L Palmas	20	68	s	Paris	13	55	s
Budapst	14	57	f	Le Tquet	13	55	f	Peking	1	34	c
B Aires	37	99	f	Lisbon	14	57	c	Perth	26	79	s
Cairo	19	66	f	Locarno	13	55	s	Prague	9	48	r
Cape Th	26	79	s	L Angels	14	57	c	Reykjavik	-4	25	s
Chicago	-3	27	c	Luxembg	8	46	c	Rhodes	17	63	s
Ch'church	15	59	X	Luxor	21	70	s	Rio de J	30	86	s
Cologne	12	54	r	Madrid	13	55	s	Riyadh	19	66	c
Rome	15	59	s
---	---	---	---
Salzburg	12	54	c
S F'risco	12	54	f
Santiago	23	73	s
S Paulo	32	90	f
Seoul	1	34	s
Sing'por	31	88	f
Stkholm	-1	30	c
Strasb'rg	11	52	c
Sydney	27	81	s
Tangier	20	68	s
Tel Aviv	17	63	s
Tenerife	20	68	c
Tokyo	13	55	r
Toronto	-8	18	sn
Tunis	19	66	f
Valencia	17	63	s
Vanc'ver	5	41	c
Venice	7	45	c
Vienna	12	54	f
Warsaw	7	45	f
Wash'ton	3	37	s
Wel'ngton	17	63	c
Zurich	8	46	c

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: lows L and N will rotate around each other and drift east with some deepening; high B will move southeast and decline

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.03	6.5	11.32	6.5	Liverpool	8.35	8.0	8.55	8.2
Aberdeen	11.04	3.9	11 14	3.9	Lowestoft	6.47	2.3	7.23	2.4
Avonmouth	4 11	11.1	4.40	11 4	Margate	8.10	4.2	8.48	4.2
Belfast	8.26	3.1	8.47	3.1	Milford Haven	3.30	5.8	3.53	6.0
Cardiff	4 02	10 10	4.30	10 45	Newquay	2.28	5.8	2.49	6.0
Devonport	2.54	4.7	3 14	4.7	Oban	3.02	3.2	3.34	3.4
Dover	8.26	5.8	9.01	5.8	Penzance	2.02	5.7	2.20	4.7
Falmouth	2.24	4.5	2.44	4.5	Portland	3.40	1.8	3.53	1.5
Glasgow	10 18	4.5	10 49	4.5	Portsmouth	6.41	4.3	9.13	4.1
Harwich	8.53	3.5	9.27	3.8	Shoreham	8.37	5.3	9.08	5.3
Holyhead	7.59	4.8	8.10	4.9	Southampton	8.12	4.2	8.42	4.0
Hull	3.27	6.29	4.10	6.31	Swansea	3.31	7.9	3.56	8.2
Ilfracombe	3.12	7.67	3.38	7.92	Tees	12.37	4.6	1.21	4.8
King's Lynn	3 34	5 5	4 13	5 6	Wilton-on-Naze	8.51	3.7	9.24	3.8
Leith	—	—	12.03	4.8					

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.59 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon sets 4.17 pm
Moon rises 1.51 pm

London 3.52 pm to 8.00 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.05 am
Edinburgh 3.38 pm to 8.38 am
Manchester 3.46 pm to 8.19 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.15 am

Full moon December 17

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THE TIMES

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14 1994

Clinton offers US expertise to help rebuild Ulster



Brown: building relations

BY NICHOLAS WATT
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN and America last night signed an agreement to link businesses in Northern Ireland with American research and development projects and to give firms in the Province greater access to technology networks in America.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and Ron Brown, the American Commerce Secretary, who launched the venture in Belfast, said it would boost industrial wealth in Ulster. They were speaking at the opening of an International Investment Forum in Belfast, the largest conference of its kind to be held in Northern Ireland. Nearly 300 delegates from Europe, America and the Far East will attend the two-day conference, which is designed to increase inward investment in Northern Ireland in the wake of the IRA and loyalist ceasefires.

Sir Patrick hailed the agreement with America as an example of President Clinton's commitment to the peace process. It would, he said, give industrialists in Northern Ireland a unique opportunity to plug into America's extensive technology networks, adding: "They will be able to study the various US approaches to commercially-driven collaboration between industry and academia; the use of research to increase economic competitiveness; and the development and marketing of new products by small and medium-sized industry."

The US Commerce Department's Technology Administration and the Northern Ireland Department of Economic Development's Industrial Research and Technology Unit will establish a working group that will report to President Clinton's investment conference on Ireland in Philadelphia next April. The programme will see scientists and businessmen from Northern Ireland seconded to American companies for training.

Mr Brown said: "This programme will expedite the transfer of advanced business skills to Ireland and, we hope, build business relationships between US and Northern Ireland companies that will support long-term, mutually beneficial relationships."

In speeches in Belfast and Londonderry yesterday, Mr Brown told business leaders that America wanted to lift people in Northern Ireland out of the "cycle of conflict and despair" and to help build "the infrastructure of peace" through economic growth in a new era of reconciliation.

Mr Brown said that President Clinton has asked him to to draw up a strategic plan to speed economic growth in Northern Ireland and in the Irish Republic's border counties. He said that his plan would build on the example of 40 American companies that have invested $850 million in Northern Ireland in the past five years, supporting 9,000 jobs. Mr Brown yesterday visited Seagate Technology, a US maker of disc drives that has opened a plant in Londonderry. He paid tribute to the "high-tech, growth oriented firms creating good jobs and building a scientific community".

The Commerce Secretary, who will also visit businesses in the Irish Republic after the conference, is leading a team of Congressmen and American business leaders. He said: "This delegation represents the depth of the Clinton Administration's commitment. Together, we have enough experience and expertise to put together a comprehensive picture of the Irish economy."

Retailers fear poor sales for Christmas

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S shops suffered poor sales in November and were forced to keep prices low to tempt consumers, new figures from the Confederation of British Industry showed yesterday — fuelling retail fears of poor trade in the run-up to Christmas.

But while business leaders were unsure about the impact on consumer spending of the interest rate rise last week, they suggested that there was still scope for a surge in high street sales in the final days before Christmas.

The Government will publish tomorrow official retail sales figures for November, which forecasters expect to be broadly flat. In advance of them, figures from the CBI distributive trades survey showed that high street business in November was marginally higher than last year.

City analysts suggested the CBI's survey of 15,000 retail, wholesale and motor outlets confirmed that consumers are still tightening their belts in the face of rising interest rates, job insecurity, a flat housing market, and the prospect of further tax rises next April.

While the volume of sales in the high street rose in the year to November after a decrease the previous month, the increase fell considerably short of retailers' expectations.

A balance of 6 per cent of companies surveyed — those recording a rise against those seeing a fall — said that sales volumes had gone up, which was less than a third of the 19 per cent expecting a sales increase. Nigel Whittaker, chairman of the distributive trades survey panel, said: "Trading conditions have been less buoyant than retailers expected for the second consecutive month as year-on-year growth in sales in November turned out to be less than forecast", which he said was typical of the uneven growth in high street sales volumes seen throughout the year.

Low prices in the shops were good news for inflation and should help to encourage consumers into the high street in the run-up to Christmas. Prices rose at their slowest annual rate since the CBI survey began in August 1983.

Many retailers have already begun voicing their fears over the level of trade this Christmas, and Mr Whittaker acknowledged yesterday that people were leaving their Christmas shopping later each year.

A balance of 21 per cent of retailers are expecting a rise in sales this month, which would be a sharp pick-up from November's figure. But CBI analysts emphasised that actual sales this year had repeatedly been below expectations.

The volume of growth last month was mainly concentrated in large multiple stores, with single outlets and small multiples reporting only subdued growth, and mail order companies recording a moderate fall in sales.

While retail leaders were unsure about the impact on sales of the recent interest rate rises, Sudhir Junankar, CBI associate economics director, said that the CBI was forecasting a growth in consumer spending next year.

Wholesalers' sales volumes increased at the slowest rate since last April and were well below expectations, while motor traders reported another fall in sales volumes although by less than expected.

Across all three sectors, overall sales volumes continued to rise, but at a decelerating rate. The balance of companies reporting an increase in business compared with November 1993 was 19 per cent, as against 29 per cent in October and 39 per cent in September.

☐ Alastair Eperon, corporate affairs director at Boots, is to succeed Mr Whittaker, executive director of Kingfisher, as chairman of the CBI's panel.

TONY WHITE



Full steam ahead: Sam Newington, chairman of Fairline Boats, yesterday, after reporting £1.15 million pre-tax profits, against £558,000 last time, on sales ahead 17 per cent to £39.3 million. The dividend rises to 15.5p, from 10.5p last time

BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100 2948.4 (+3.0)
Yield 4.37%
FT-SE A All share 1466.10 (+0.91)
Nikkei 18875.48 (-99.62)

New York:
Dow Jones 3721.39 (+3.02)*
S&P Composite 451.14 (+1.67)*

US rate

Federal Funds 5¾%* (5¾%)
Long Bond 95²⁸/₃₂* (95¹⁄₄)
Yield 7.87%* (7.93%)

London money

3-mth Interbank 6⅝% (6⅝%)
Life long gilt future (Dec) 102²⁄₃₂ (102²⁸/₃₂)

Sterling *

New York:
$ 1.5603* (1.5848)
London:
$ 1.5605 (1.5843)
DM 2.4501 (2.4616)
FFr 8.4475 (8.4610)
SFr 2.0756 (2.0854)
Yen 156.47 (156.48)
£ Index 80.4 (80.4)

Dollar *

London:
DM 1.5709* (1.5733)
FFr 5.4110* (5.4080)
SFr 1.3298* (1.3335)
Yen 100.32* (99.96)
$ Index 63.4 (63.3)

Tokyo close Yen 100.17

North Sea Oil

Brent 15-day (Feb) $18.00 ($18.20)

Gold

London close $378.45 ($377.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Power cuts

Southern Electricity, the power company, is to cut about a quarter of its workforce, or some 1,100 jobs over five years, in the latest shake up in the industry. It was also revealed that dividends to shareholders are to rise 23.8 per cent for the latest half year of trading.
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Saatchi row

American shareholders are opposing a plan by Saatchi & Saatchi to grant Maurice Saatchi £5 million of options if the share price doubles over the next three years.
Page 27, Pennington 25

Albright & Wilson returns to market

BY CARL MORTISHED

THE London stock market will soon welcome back a historic name in Britain's chemical industry with the £600 million flotation of Albright & Wilson. Tenneco, the American industrial group plans to float 100 per cent of the Birmingham phosphate and surfactant manufacturer early next year in a public offer, returning the group to the quoted sector after 16 years as a private company.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd and Lazard Brothers are jointly sponsoring a placing and public offer which will take place in the first three months of 1995. Tenneco said yesterday that the sale of Albright & Wilson was part of a strategy to redeploy assets in higher return, faster growth opportunities in packaging, automotive parts and natural gas.

Albright & Wilson was founded in 1851 and made its name in making phosphorous for matches but today the company has extended its reach in phosphorous chemistry to food additives and toothpaste as well as developing a major business in surfactants: wetting and foaming agents used in detergents. The company sells to big soap manufacturers, such as Procter & Gamble and Unilever and Albright phosphorous products are used to give the "kick" to Coca-Cola.

Profits have been on a rising trend since 1991 with returns before interest and tax growing from £45.2 million in 1992 to £56.4 million in the year to December 1993. Over the same period sales increased from £542 million to £609 million.

Albright & Wilson has recently expanded into speciality chemicals, which now account for 14 per cent of turnover.

Northern shares in power surge

BY MELVYN MARCKUS AND ERIC REGULY

A FLURRY of demand, reflecting revived takeover speculation, sent Northern Electric's share price leaping 33p to 920p on the London stock market yesterday before profit-taking finally cut the rise to 23p at a new closing "high" of 910p.

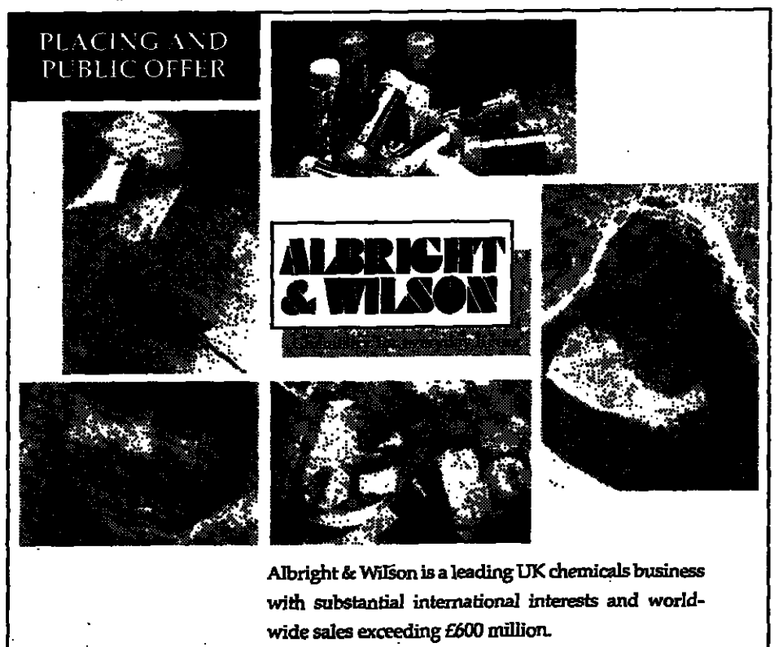
Northern's share price — up from 853p early last week — has been powered by persistent buying before and after Monday's dividend bonanza, perceived in the City as a potentially defensive manoeuvre in the light of continuing takeover speculation.

This speculation, emanating from the Far East, has linked Jardine Matheson with the UK utility, witness rumours embracing Trafalgar House, the UK conglomerate in which Hongkong Land, Jardine's property associate, holds a 25 per cent stake. Hanson, the Anglo-American conglomerate, is also rumoured as a potential bidder for Northern. The attraction of the REC's cash flow to Hanson is widely acknowledged, a factor which has to be weighed against Lord Hanson's antipathy towards regulated industries. Scottish Power, whose network is adjacent to Northern, has also been named as a potential partner, rumours which the company prefers not to comment on.

Tony Hadfield, Northern's chief executive, said he believed the strength of the share price merely reflected the company's strong interim results, accompanied by a near-30 per cent dividend rise. He said: "We received a very positive press and a number of investors have moved back into the stock."

Jobs to go, page 25

PLACING AND PUBLIC OFFER



Albright & Wilson is a leading UK chemicals business with substantial international interests and worldwide sales exceeding £600 million.

It supplies chemicals which play a part in many aspects of modern living: from agrochemicals to pharmaceuticals; foods to flame retardants; washing powder to water treatment.

Albright & Wilson has manufacturing operations, including joint ventures, in 15 countries. The Group has its worldwide headquarters at Birmingham, England and employs over 4,000 people.

To register your interest and receive a copy of the prospectus phone

0800 800 400

Lines open 24 hours a day

BZW

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This is not an invitation to apply for shares. Any such invitation or offer will be made in a prospectus to be published in due course and any such application should be made solely on the basis of information contained in such prospectus. This advertisement, which has been prepared by and is the sole responsibility of Tenneco Inc. and Albright & Wilson Limited has been approved by Barclays de Zoete Wedd Limited and Lazard Brothers & Co. Limited, members of The Securities and Futures Authority Limited, solely for the purposes of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act, 1986.

Inspirations takes flight with Caledonian

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT
TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH AIRWAYS is selling Caledonian Airways to Inspirations, the package tour operator, for £16.6 million.

Caledonian was formed by BA from the rump of the charter operations of the old British Caledonian. The name and the distinctive tartan uniforms worn by the cabin crew and the golden lion on the tail of the jets, will be maintained.

The takeover of the charter airline based at Gatwick means that all but two of Britain's charter airlines are owned by big travel companies whose interests range from travel agencies to airlines. Inspirations, founded in 1991 by Vic Fatah, former Summed and Redwing chairman, becomes one of the biggest travel organisations in Britain. The company was floated in September last year.



The familiar Caledonian livery will remain after takeover

The need to complete the integration of the company through the acquisition of an airline initially led it to negotiate the lease of three A320 jets, planning to call the airline International Airways. That will now not go ahead and the A320s will instead be integrated into the Caledonian fleet.

BA calculated that although Caledonian had been making small but regular profits over the past few years, the increasing trend towards vertical integration would almost certainly tip it into a loss within the next year or two.

Under the deal, which will be finalised next March, Inspirations will pay £4.9 million in cash for the name, the business, hangar, office and aircraft parking space at Gatwick and important take-off and landing slots.

This is payable in tranches of £2.9 million on March 31 then two other payments of £1 million in the following November. The company will also take on an £11.7 million loan for the aircraft, repayable over five years in equal monthly repayments.

Inspirations will raise £6.7 million through a one-for-four rights issue at 120p a share. The cash raised will be set aside, the company said, "to replace cash reserves to be applied as consideration for the acquisition and to provide additional working capital for the enlarged group".

In its results published yesterday, Inspirations reported a 77 per cent jump in profits to £4.5 million in the 16 months to the end of September.

Lloyd's names face bills over next 20 years


Sturge: pessimistic forecast

BY SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S OF LONDON names may face bills for up to £10.2 billion over the next 10 to 20 years to meet the cost of insurance policies written in the past, according to Chatset, the independent Lloyd's analyst.

The estimate of future losses on open syndicate years compares with £8.6 billion last year and £5 billion in 1992. The figures are drawn from an analysis of syndicates that have been unable to close years of accounts through reinsuring because their future claims are unquantifiable. Syndicates with exposure to latent liability claims — asbestosis, pollution and health hazards — are predominately those with years left open. The number of syndicates with open years has risen sharply from 163 at the end of 1991, to 317 at the end of 1992 and 476 at the end of 1993.

The £10.2 billion is the amount Chatset believes is needed to bolster these syndicates' reserves to meet future claims. Its figures assume that the losses will be called annually over the next 20 years. If the cash were to be called earlier the sum would be discounted substantially.

Charles Sturge, co-editor of Chatset, said: "Latent liability accounts for two thirds of all future deterioration and remains the major factor. Sadly there doesn't seem to be any end to it."

Lloyd's said Chatset's estimate failed to take into account the Equitas project. This is the insurance company being set up, into which all 1985 and prior year liabilities will be reinsured. It will be able to commutate claims, so the amount of reserves the company will need will be less than its outstanding liabilities. A Lloyd's spokesman said: "The figures presented by Chatset could be a scenario if Equitas is not put in place. But the Equitas project is going forward as planned."

Mr Sturge admitted the under-reserving figure did not take Equitas into account, saying: "These figures could be substantially discounted if the cash is called now, rather than annually as the need for additional reserves arises. This is one of Equitas's great strengths as it can use existing reserves to discount the claims on the open years." He added that until completion of Equitas names should not face any new demands for cash.

A breakdown of the £10.2 billion reveals the growing problem of bad debts arising from insurance company collapses. Chatset puts the cost at £800 million.

Chatset estimates that Lioncover, the vehicle set up by Lloyd's to deal with losses arising from the PCW syndicates, will need further reserves of £500 million. Under-reserving for latent liability claims is put at £6.3 billion, general liability claims at £981 million and personal stop loss and estate protection plan claims at £831.9 million. The balance is made up of catastrophe, agents' errors and ommissions' insurance and general insurance claims.

Burden on BAe eased by Airbus financing

FROM ROSS TIEMAN IN TOULOUSE

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE has raised $1.5 billion to create its own aircraft finance company and relieve growing pressure on the balance sheets of its four partner companies.

Airbus Finance Company will fund the purchase of aircraft by airlines from the European plane-makers' consortium. The new finance arm is designed to enable the group to overtake its arch-rival Boeing to become the world's biggest plane-maker.

AFC will aim to achieve an AI or A-plus credit rating in its own right within four to six years, freeing the Airbus partners, including British Aerospace, from liability for its borrowings thereafter.

Once a strong credit rating is achieved, AFC hopes to issue bonds backed by aircraft in its portfolio, so as to develop a new market in "securitised" debt. At the same time, Airbus hopes to consolidate its existing portfolio of leased aircraft, now worth about $4 billion.

The strategy was outlined by Tony Rice, acting chief executive, at a briefing in Toulouse yesterday. Although the European plane-building consortium had sought only $1 billion, the partners, including British Aerospace, decided to take up an extra $500 million after the facility, arranged by JP Morgan and backed by 49 banks, was 2.3 times subscribed.

AFC, to be based in Dublin, will buy aircraft from the assembly lines in Toulouse and lease them to airlines. Because it will enable the consortium partners, British Aerospace, Aerospatiale of France, Deutsche Aereospace and Casa of Spain, to share responsibility for its liabilities between them, it will reduce by a quarter the liability that falls on the four partner companies in the Airbus consortium. BAe, a 20 per cent partner in Airbus, is at present exposed to the entire risk of the consortium's $4 billion leasing book of 55 planes.

Because the partners are jointly and severally liable, each has a comparable exposure to the full risk, although strong second-hand demand for Airbus planes has avoided any need for provisions. The existing risk will continue until the present lease portfolio can be transferred into AFC as leases mature.

By creating Airbus Finance, the partners have, in effect, cut future demands on their balance sheets by a quarter at a time when leasing is becoming an increasingly popular way for airlines to acquire planes.

Airbus Finance is expected to grow into a substantial leasing company in its own right, and will help Airbus to resist pressure for big discounts on aircraft purchases from specialist leasing companies.

An Airbus spokesman said: "It will give us greater flexibility and enable us to do deals we could not previously do because the balance sheets of our partners would not support it."

However, Airbus salesmen would seek to use more conventional financing options, including sales and other leasing companies, before taking extra business on the books of Airbus Finance, he said.

"AFC must not be seen as a first stop, nor as a last resort," he said. "We do have to explore all the other options first."

The need to contain the leasing exposure is exacerbated by the increasing size and complexity of Airbus planes. Since the launch of the first Airbus, the A300, in 1974, Airbus has progressively developed larger and more complex aircraft. The A320 twin-jet, launched six years ago, costs $47 million. The latest plane, the four-engined A340, introduced this year, has a price tag of $100 million.

With 1,200 planes in service, and 600 on order, Airbus also knows that it must ensure that residual values remain firm.

Airbus Finance will be based in Dublin to benefit from tax breaks in the Irish Republic. It will be chaired by Francois Auque, finance director of Aerospatiale. Tony Rice, group treasurer of BAe, will be acting chief executive. The board will include the finance directors of each partner company: Richard Lapthorne (BAe), Wolfgant Piller (Deutsche Aerospace), and Enrique Rovira (Casa).

MARC ASPLAND


Peter Greenall, left, and Andrew Thomas, chairman and chief executive of Greenalls

Greenalls developing wholesaler for beer

BY NEIL BENNETT
DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

GREENALLS, the pubs, restaurants and hotels group, is building a nationwide beer wholesaling business by rapidly acquiring local firms. The group hopes that the business will generate cash to invest in its growing pub chain.

The group yesterday disclosed that in the 53 weeks to September 30, it spent £3.5 million on buying beer wholesalers to expand its Tavern Wholesaling business, and has made two further acquisitions since. Peter Greenall, managing director, said he hoped that the business would be fully national by the end of 1995.

The growth of the wholesaling business lifted operating profits of the drinks and leisure division by 33 per cent to £8.4 million in the period.

This helped overall pre-tax profits to rise 10 per cent, to £74.8 million, even though Greenalls was held back by one-off costs of closing Cambrian, its soft drinks manufacturing arm and other rationalisation totalling £13.3 million. Operating profits rose by 36 per cent, to £122 million, in the year, due mainly to the first full contribution by Devenish, the West Country pubs group acquired last year.

The final dividend is 7.77p, due on February 24, making 13.1p, up by 6 per cent.

After pressure from City investors, Greenalls disclosed that Devenish contributed £24.5 million to profits. Excluding this, operating profits from the group's pubs rose by 8 per cent, while its restaurants division increased profits by 35 per cent.

Food sales rose by 9.4 per cent in the pubs and by almost 14 per cent in Premier House, the group's pub/restaurant division.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Coats Viyella to sell carpets division

COATS Viyella said it has reached an agreement in principle for the proposed sale of its carpets division to Shaw Industries of America for an undisclosed sum. The transaction is subject to approval by the boards of directors of both companies, and to the negotiation of agreements and any necessary government filings. Final terms will be disclosed on completion which is expected at some point during the new year.

On November 10, 1994, Coats Viyella announced the appointment of Baring Brothers to advise on the sale of its yarns and fabrics and carpets division. The division as a whole has current annual sales of more than £100 million on 1993 year-end assets employed of £30 million. Neville Bain, the chief executive of Coats Viyella, said: "This sale will allow the group to focus its energies on its core businesses, and invest further in serving our customers in both established and emerging textiles markets." Coats Viyella shares rose on yesterday's news from 189p to 190p. Tempus, page 26

British Gas looks east

BRITISH GAS has held talks with four local oil firms about possible oil and gas exploration in the Philippine Islands, officials of the Manila government said yesterday. British Gas representatives had met executives of state-owned Philippine National Oil Co, South China Petroleum, Petrofields Corp and Cophil Corp, and British Gas experts are due in Manila next month to assess petroleum data and perhaps form joint ventures with local oil companies, officials said. British Gas last month agreed an oil joint venture in the islands.

Minister's warning

BRITISH companies were warned yesterday against contracts involving forced labour in Myanmar — formerly Burma. Baroness Chalker, Foreign Office Minister of State, said such deals would attract "not only criticism, but also condemnation". The country's State Law and Order Restoration Council regime was accused by Baroness Cox of "torture, murder, forced labour and forced relocation". The main victims, the Karen people who fought alongside the British in the Second World War, were now "trapped in the jungle".

Berkeley builds profits

A MOVE upmarket helped Berkeley Group, the Surrey housebuilder, to a 40 per cent advance in first half profits despite little improvement in the overall level of house prices. Pre-tax profit jumped to £17.8 million in the six months to October 31 in spite of a small drop in unit sales. Turnover grew to £128.7 million (£103.9 million).

The interim dividend is raised 10.5 per cent to 2.1p (1.9p), from earnings ahead 40 per cent to 15.4p (11p) a share. Net cash stood at £10 million. The shares eased 1p to 329p.

Goldsborough advances

GOLDSBOROUGH Healthcare, the nursing homes, hospitals and homecare group, kept to its flotation forecast with a 130 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £5.3 million in the year to October 2. The shares rose 4p to 148p, against the March flotation price of 170p a share. The group also announced the acquisition of two nursing homes and a sheltered housing management company for £4.9 million. The final dividend is 2.3p, 5 per cent ahead of that indicated at the time of the flotation, to be paid out of earnings of 13p a share (7.1p).

TBI in £24m deal

TBI, the property company formerly known as Markheath, proposes to pay £24.1 million for a portfolio of 11 properties. The deal will be funded by the issue of up to 27.98 million ordinary shares at 40p, a 9.6 per cent premium to the share price immediately before the exchange of contracts. The main vendor is Peter Thomas, brother of Stanley Thomas, TBI's deputy chairman. The portfolio, with gross yield of 8.4 per cent, is independently valued at £24.1 million. TBI will assume £12.9 million of bank debt relating to the properties.

Sheriff doubles profit

ORGANIC growth and acquisitions helped Sheriff Holdings, the USM-quoted plant hire group, to more than double pre-tax profits in the year to September 30, to £3.6 million (£1.7 million). Turnover advanced 58 per cent to £20.2 million. Richard Dunn, chairman, is optimistic about prospects for the current year, with improving market conditions as construction activity rises. The total dividend is 5.75p (3.75p) for the year, with a 4p final payout, from earnings of 23.9p (11.5p) a share. Gearing stood at 32 per cent (18 per cent).

First Technology ahead

SHARES in First Technology rose 22p to 352p after the automotive safety specialist company announced a sharp rise in interim profits and issued an upbeat statement on current trading. In the half-year to end-October, pre-tax profits rose to £2.8 million from £1.76 million and earnings improved to 11.77p a share from 7.36p. The interim dividend is increased to 2.8p a share from 1p. Although turnover rose only marginally to £16.4 million from £16 million, operating profits advanced to £2.82 million from £1.84 million.

Triplex Lloyd rises

TRIPLEX Lloyd, the automotive components and engineering company, has held the interim dividend at 2.5p a share, as profits continued to recover in the six months to end-September. At the taxable level, profits rose to £2.55 million from £1.45 million and earnings increased to 2.8p a share from 1.6p. The order book has risen to £67.5 million from £46.3 million year-on-year. In the year to end-March, the company incurred losses of £2.92 million after writing off £3.87 million against disposals.

Whessoe in the red

LOSSES at Whessoe, the engineering company, were £200,000 before tax in the year to end-September as a result of difficult trading in the piping systems division, sold last month to Prospect Industries for £11.65 million. There was a loss per share of 3.76p for the period and, as previously announced, there is no final dividend, leaving a total of 2.3p a share for the year. In the previous year, profits were £7.14 million before tax and earnings were 18.8p a share. The total dividend was 8.2p.

Managers' pay is drifting higher

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SALARY rises for managers are edging upwards as pay freezes in industry are ending, a new survey shows.

The Government will today publish figures on average earnings increases along with the latest unemployment and jobs figures, and City analysts say the current underlying average of 3.75 per cent is likely to nudge upwards.

Incomes Data Services, the pay analysts, say managerial pay awards averaged 3.4 per cent in the three months to October, compared with 2.7 per cent in the same period a year ago. The level of increase is also up on the 3.1 per cent rises in managerial pay recorded by IDS's Management Pay Review for the previous quarter of this year.

Managers in the finance sector are leading the increase, with average rises running at 4.5 per cent, followed by 3.3 per cent in manufacturing industry, 3.1 per cent in service businesses and 2.9 per cent in the public sector.

☐ Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, should announce a fundamental review of the Government's adult training provisions, a jobs pressure group says. The Independent Employment Policy Institute says the cut in the Government's funding for adult training announced in the Budget "sits uneasily" with the jobs package unveiled at the same time. The Chancellor had failed to provide sufficient resources, it said.

☐ The Department of Employment confirmed a report in The Times that the Government is looking at ways of reconciling the department's two principal measures of employment — one of which is showing that the number of jobs is still declining while the other suggests it is rising.

☐ Harriet Harman, Labour's shadow employment secretary, said people were increasingly being forced into part-time and temporary jobs because of the lack of full-time work.

Oslo bourse director found dead

THE director of the Oslo bourse, sacked on Monday for mixing his private finances with those of the stock exchange, was yesterday found dead off the shore of the resort near Oslo where he had a summer cottage (Colin Narbrough writes).

Police said the body of Erik Jarve, who had been head of the bourse since 1977, was found a few hundred metres from the water's edge. No cause of death was given.

The bourse said in a statement that it profoundly regretted the personal tragedy of a man who had been a "tremendous resource" for the exchange for 25 years. He was credited with modernising the once sleepy exchange's trading operations.

Elisabeth Wille, chairman of the bourse board, declined to say how much money was involved in the alleged irregularities, but indicated that the damage to trust and confidence in the bourse was more important than the financial aspects of the case.

Hotels help Vaux to strong recovery

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

SIR PAUL NICHOLSON, chairman of Vaux Group, views the future with "measured optimism" after a strong recovery in hotels helped the Sunderland brewing, hotels and nursing homes group to a 13.2 per cent advance in full year profits.

Pre-tax profits climbed to £29.3 million in the year to September 30, against £25.9 million last time, on turnover ahead to £243.5 million (£234.9 million).

Sir Paul was critical of "totally misconceived" government Beer Orders on pub rationalisation which had destabilised the brewing industry, and said the Chancellor's mini-Budget decision to raise duty on drinks was "really shattering" and "unbelievably short-sighted".

He added that cross-Channel racketeers were having a limited but adverse impact on the group, with "bootleg beer" possibly taking away up to 3 per cent of the group's trade.

"There is a major black economy industry," he said, adding that some "gangsters" were forcing publicans to delay opening pubs so that illegal transactions could take place in car parks.

he said.

Vaux's traditional brewing and pubs business was flat, but this was more than offset by a strong recovery at Swallow Hotels, where profits rose 15.4 per cent. The opening of new nursing homes helped profits from St Andrews Homes to jump 21.7 per cent.

Hotel occupancy rates rose 3 per cent in the period, while room rates edged up 1 per cent. Sir Paul said the strong recovery had continued, with occupancy rates up 6 per cent since the year end and room rates ahead 4 per cent. He criticised banks for damaging the hotel industry by subsidising uneconomic companies.

The total dividend is raised to 9.85p (9.5p), with a 6.5p final payout, from earnings up to 16.5p (14.75p) a share. The shares rose 2p to 229p.

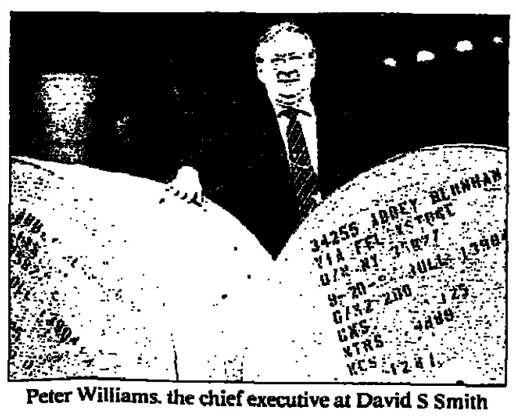
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TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.12	1.95
Austria Sch	18.28	16.78
Belgium Fr	53.60	49.30
Canada $	2.376	2.116
Cyprus CypE	0.790	0.735
Denmark Kr	10.24	9.44
Finland Mkk	8.25	7.55
France Fr	8.95	8.25
Germany Dm	2.61	2.40
Greece Dr	400.00	375.00
Hong Kong $	12.74	11.74
Ireland Pt	1.07	0.99
Italy Lira	2665.00	2510.00
Japan Yen	170.50	154.50
Malta	0.624	0.569
Netherlds Gld	2.901	2.671
Norway Kr	11.32	10.52
Portugal Esc	262.50	244.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.35
Spain Pta	213.50	199.50
Sweden Kr	12.43	11.63
Switzerland Fr	2.21	2.03
Turkey Lira	refer	54101.0
USA $	1.560	1.530

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

David S. Smith surges as paper recovers


Peter Williams, the chief executive at David S Smith

BY OUR CITY STAFF

ALAN CLEMENTS, chairman at David S. Smith, said future prospects for the paper and packaging group were "excellent" as he and Peter Williams, chief executive, unveiled a near trebling in pre-tax profits to £40.4 million in the six months to October 29.

The interim dividend, payable on March 13, was lifted to 4.25p from 2.75p, although this rise was flattered by a change in the balance between the payments. Earnings per share rose from 9.3p to 20.4p. The shares rose 1p to 499p.

Profits benefited from the upturn in paper markets, better returns from the rebuilt Kemsley paper mill and the elimination of unfair competition in waste paper markets.

Mr Clements said: "The recovery in paper markets has been more rapid than might have been anticipated and has allowed us to go some way to restoring margins."

The rise in pre-tax profits from £13.7 million to £40.4 million was achieved on the back of a 41 per cent rise in sales to £475.4 million. Operating margins improved from 5.8 per cent to 9.6 per cent in spite of increases of nearly 50 per cent in paper and polymer prices.

The price increases put pressure on packaging margins, the group's largest division. The group said it expected further large prices rises to come, making it essential to lift selling prices. Erosion of margins was avoided because of cost reductions. The division lifted operating profits from £15.6 million to £36.2 million on sales up from £266 million to £318.7 million.

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☐ At last, a real manufacturer ☐ Who's with the Woolwich and allied with Leicester? ☐ Maurice's super options

It'll be Albright on the night

☐ IN its current lachrymose state, the equity market is hardly in the mood for new issues and flotation sponsors need the equivalent of a phosphorous bomb to create enough interest to underwrite an issue at a half-decent price. Fund managers have naturally become wary of brokers bearing new issues, since they have recently been stuffed with too many high-tech, low profit losers that could never live up to the extravagant claims in their prospectuses.

Into the midst of this cold war of mutual distrust comes Albright & Wilson, the chemicals group, which Tenneco hopes to float for around £600 million, a figure that equates to its turnover. The word that Tenneco wanted to sell its only chemical business has been doing the rounds in the Square Mile and it seems that having failed to find a trade buyer, the group now hopes to jettison the business onto the stock market.

Floating off unwanted subsidiaries may seem like yesterday's game. It was played effectively and profitably by a gaggle of businesses earlier this year, including Forte, BTR and Hanson who all needed to reduce gearing and could not find any trade buyers rich or brave enough to oblige.

But as share prices have slipped and new issues have bombed, the City has tired of this corporate car boot sale. There are indications, however, that Tenneco may well get away with floating Albright, even though it looks a large mouthful for a weakened and wary market to swallow.

The trend is your friend as every jaded investor reminds himself. In this case the trend is Tenneco's broker's best mate, since the cyclical recovery in the chemcials market is doing wonders for chemical company profits, and there is nothing like a strongly rising earnings line to excite investors. The recovery came just in time for ICI and EniChem to float EVC, the PVC manufacturer as a profitable business. Brunner Mond, another ICI orphan, is also reported to be planning to surf the cyclical recovery onto the stock market sometime in the New Year.

To be fair, Albright's phosphates and surfactants businesses are less cyclical than bulk cheamical and petrochemical businesses. The company has been able to pass on the recent hike in raw material prices to its customers in the food and soap multinationals. Surfactants are a high growth product since they are used in an increasing number of industrial and agricultural applications in addition to their traditional role of putting bubbles in your bath.

It may be premature, but the Birmingham company promises to be a rare bird among flotations: a solid manufacturing business with markets worldwide and a strong reputation. Hard to believe, but a welcome change from the theme restaurants and bio-tech whizzkidology that infected the market at the start of the year.



Building bigger societies

☐ BUILDING society mergers are developing an etiquette all of their own and it goes something like this. The building society rumoured to be in talks categorically denies it is talking to anyone. But in order not to make it sound like such a barefaced fib, the spokesperson then adds that the society has always been interested in a suitable merger if one can be found. The latest "hot" rumours include a merger between the Woolwich and the Bradford & Bingley and a bank to make a bid for the Alliance & Leicester. NatWest has been mentioned as the bank, but there the trail runs cold. The possibility of a merger between the Woolwich and Bradford & Bingley has more substance, however. The Woolwich, which admits to having had preliminary merger talks with the Leeds before the Halifax deal, is in the process of cleaning up its mailing list. This has always been regarded as a prelude to a major announcement. The Woolwich says it has a new computer system and anyway, the Building Societies Commission asked for the mailing list to be cleaned up. A spokesman says: "I can categorically deny that we are in merger talks with any society or other institution." He added: "We have never denied that we would be in favour of a north/south marriage."

Another tell-tale sign is that Bradford & Bingley recently recruited John Wriglesworth, the former building society analyst from UBS, the broker, to the newly created post of head of corporate strategy. Corporate strategy chiefs do deals, and a building society would not hire a dog without wanting it to bark. A spokesman said yesterday:

"This [merger talk] is pure speculation. There are no talks taking place with the Woolwich." He concluded by adding: "We will, however, continue to look at possible mergers with other societies."

Sounds familiar. Perhaps someone has sold rights to the script. But remember, right until the time it was bounced into making a premature announcement, the Halifax denied that it was in talks with the Leeds Permanent. It also insisted that mutuality was a cause so dear to its heart that it would never consider renouncing it.

Insecurity at Saatchi

☐ Even Americans, so it would seem, find remuneration, UK-style, hard to swallow. Saatchi & Saatchi has now replaced British Gas in the public gaze, a key bone of contention being the company's "super option scheme" which, should it ever see the light of day, (unlikely) threatens chairman Maurice Saatchi with a £5 million profit. Such a reward would be dependent on Saatchi & Saatchi's share price doubling over three years. One of the quirks of Saatchi's scheme is that Mr Saatchi's allocation is based on his former salary of £625,000 rather than his current crust of £200,000.

No such proposals have, as yet, reached shareholders but certain institutions have been "sounded out." The sounding out of Harris Associates of Chicago was clearly a wise precaution, the apoplectic response being (a) that Mr Saatchi's option allocation should be scaled back (b) the Plc should drop the "Saatchi" name and (c) Mr Saatchi should grace the board of the operating subsidiary which bears his name, rather than the parent company.

Mr Saatchi might be able to drum up a little support over the Saatchi brand name but would be unwise to do battle on the shifting sands of a once upon a time salary which went the same way as ambitions embracing the Midland Bank.

Mr Saatchi's future may be insecure but such insecurity should, surely, be shared by the remuneration committee, led by Sir Peter Walters and recently enriched by the arrival of Sir Paul Girolami, complete with his £9.6 million Glaxo send off.

Stanhope stalled

☐ THE future of Stanhope Properties looks bleaker by the day. To survive, the company needs £1 million to pay rents at the end of the month. Stanhope's bankers must decide whether or not to meet the short-term cash requirement and allow the poker game to continue. In its current form, Stanhope seems an expensive way of warehousing a share certificate in Broadgate Properties: the only asset that matters.

Southern Electric plans to eliminate 1,200 more jobs

BY ERIC REGULY

SOUTHERN ELECTRIC, the big regional electricity company that has already cut more than 20 per cent of its workforce since early last year, yesterday said it will eliminate 1,200 more jobs by the end of the decade.

The company expects to have only 3,000 workers in five years, down from about 4,200 at the end of September. In March 1993, when the cost-cutting programme began, Southern had almost 5,300 employees. No forced redundancies are expected, said Henry Casley, the chief executive. Older employees will be enticed to leave with an early retirement package.

Ian McCartney, the Shadow Employment Minister, denounced the job losses. "Employees in privatised water and electricity companies are paying for big profits and massive executive payouts with their jobs," he said. "No wonder there is no 'feel-good' factor. No job is safe."

Southern tried to play down the losses, saying that efficiency drives were forcing the industry to trim its ranks. Mr Casley said: "This is small beer. It amounts to about 200 jobs a year by 2000."

The job eliminations have allowed Southern to reduce its year-on-year fixed costs by 5.6 per cent, to about £97 million. In 1991, when the industry was privatized, the fixed costs were £121 million.

About 5,800 job cuts, including Southern's, have been announced by the industry since Stephen Littlechild, the regulator, ordered electricity bills to be reduced by £500 million next year.

Southern's reductions came as it reported pre-tax profits of £106.8 million in the half year to the end of September, up 19.7 per cent from the previous period. Earnings per share rose by the same amount, to 29.7p, while turnover declined by 2.6 per cent to £744.8 million.

The strong earnings and continued cost cutting enabled the company to increase its interim dividend by 24 per cent, to 8.3p from 6.7p, payable on March 20. It is the highest dividend increase announced so far if share-buybacks are not taken into consideration.

Southern is one of the few electricity companies that has not purchased its own shares, although it received approval to do so at its last annual general meeting.

On Monday, Northern Electric lifted its interim dividend by 30 per cent. The underlying increase, however, was only 16 per cent if the effects of its share buy-back are eliminated.

John Deane, the finance director, said Southern would not decide to go ahead with a buy-back until the tax and benefit implications of the National Grid flotation were known. Southern owns 10 per cent of Grid.

All of Southern's divisions — distribution, supply and non-electricity businesses — reported higher operating profits in the period. The supply business reported the biggest increase, with operating profit rising 38 per cent to £17.4 million. Operating profits on the distribution side increased by 9 per cent to £84 million.

The non-electricity business was marred only by Powerhouse Retail, which sells and services appliances such as fridges and cookers. Powerhouse, which is 36 per cent owned by Southern, is losing more £5 million a year.

Mr Deane said Southern would stick with Powerhouse even though there is not much chance of a turnround in the near future.

Separately, Southern said it is willing to merge or buy another electricity company, but wants to avoid a hostile takeover because it would involve paying a premium. Mr Deane said the company was not holding any takeover talks.

Southern's shares closed at 756p, up 6p.

MARTIN BEDDALL



Philip Robinson, left, and Mark Frey, joint chief executives of Tring International, which has been able to increase its investment in music rights

Millions 'miss out in old accounts'

BY ROBERT MILLER

NEARLY 20 million savers are losing more than £800 million a year in interest by leaving a total of £20 billion in obsolete accounts, according to the National & Provincial Building Society.

The N&P yesterday called on other savings institutions to follow its lead and scrap all obsolete accounts and "to put an end to the £20 billion savings scandal".

A year ago, N&P decided to transfer 600,000 savers out of more than 40 old accounts and into six newer, higher-interest accounts. Only a few societies have followed suit. These include the Leeds Permanent, the Cheltenham & Gloucester and the Britannia.

Last week, Birmingham Midshires announced that it is to upgrade 289,000 savings accounts from the end of the year. The society has invested £13.5 million in its Best Account trade-up programme, which involves transferring money from closed accounts to higher-paying alternatives.

The Building Societies Ombudsman has in the past made clear his concern about savers being left in accounts paying low interest while their society launches newer and better accounts.

Andy Marchant, savings manager for N&P, said: "We estimate that up to one in three of the population still has an obsolete account and many of them don't even know it. There is almost £20 billion of savings languishing in those accounts, and the interest building societies are effectively withholding is likely to be upwards of £800 million a year."

Mr Marchant added that, with a few notable exceptions, there was little sign of other societies following N&P's example.

A spokeswoman for the Building Societies Association said: "This is very much a competitive and commercial issue for individual societies. But we welcome any move which makes clear to customers the choices available to them."

N&P said that it was also concerned that customers left in no-interest current accounts with banks are losing out, and that some National Savings investors are left in extension accounts from maturing certificates, with rates as low as 1 per cent.

Sound of success for Tring

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

TRING International, the budget priced compact disc and audio cassette publisher that came to the market earlier this year, is paying a maiden interim dividend of 1.42p.

The payout follows a 19 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £2.6 million in the half year to September 30, up from £2.2 million in the corresponding period last year. Earnings per share increased by 11 per cent, to 3.98p, from 3.57p.

The group, which buys copyrights and sells low-priced CDs and tapes through retail outlets, said that its strong balance sheet and cash flow had enabled it to increase its investment in music rights during the period. Cash balances stood at more than £2 million at the end of the first half.

The group said that it had made good progress in its strategy of expanding into new retail outlets. Its products are now available in more than 300 branches of Tesco and it has recently signed a deal with WH Smith.

Trading in the second half is in line with expectations, and the board expects to report a satisfactory result for the year. The interim dividend is to be paid on January 27.

British Land drives ahead as acquisitions lift rent income

BY CARL MORTISHED

BRITISH LAND, the property group, which last month spent £142 million buying out George Soros's Quantum fund, its joint venture partner, has raised its profits 30 per cent to £23.7 million in the half year to September 30. The interim dividend rises 7.75 per cent to 2.64p.

The company, which owns a 29 per cent share of the troubled Stanhope Properties company, is awaiting the outcome of talks between itself and Stanhope's bankers about a British Land offer of 60p in the pound to the banks to obtain control. British Land is thought to be unwilling to raise its offer.

British Land's borrowings have risen to just under half of its £1.8 billion of properties and investments after consolidation of the £591 million joint venture portfolio. The company did not publish a net asset figure, but indicated that gearing would be just under 100 per cent, with interest cover on the debt at 1.7 times.

John Ritblat, British Land chairman, said that 63 per cent of the portfolio had been acquired in the past 6½ years, and annualised gross rents were running at £200 million. "We find ourselves in the strategic position of owning the best defensive portfolio we can ever remember, which yet offers the best prospects for growth," he said.

Mr Ritblat also indicated that debt could be reduced by converting the £150 million 6 per cent irredeemable bonds into British Land preference shares.

Rental income for the half year rose 14.5 per cent to £83.2 million, boosted mainly by acquisitions. About a third of British Land's rental stream comes from leases on superstores, which contain guaranteed uplifts and are currently undergoing rent reviews.

Mr Ritblat said that the second half should provide further improvements to British Land, underpinned by annualised the gross rents at £200 million a year "and still rising through conventional reversions and guaranteed uplifts".

Abbey closes City office

ABBEY NATIONAL is to close the City of London office of J Trevor & Webster, its commercial property surveying company, this Friday with the loss of three jobs. Three more people will be made redundant, with the possibility of further job cuts, if the property market fails to pick up (Robert Miller writes).

J Trevor & Webster, which employs 260 people in 14 offices, has not made a profit since 1988. It was incorporated into Abbey National's Cornerstone estate agency chain, which was sold in 1993.

Emap pays £60m for Maclean Hunter



Miller: opportunities

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

EMAP'S voracious appetite for acquisitions continues unabated. The fast-growing magazine and newspaper publisher announced the £60 million cash purchase of Maclean Hunter European Publishing from Rogers Communications, its Canadian parent.

Maclean Hunter publishes 34 business magazines, 22 directories, and provides seven electronic information services in the UK and across Europe. Among its leading titles are *UK Press Gazette* and *International Freighting Weekly*.

The deal was widely anticipated although the purchase price was at the top end of expectations. Analysts had estimated the business was worth between £40 million and £60 million.

Colin Morrison, chairman of Emap Business Communications, said the deal strengthened the group's position in the business sector and expanded its presence in Europe.

The acquisition of Maclean Hunter is the latest in a series of deals by Emap this year. The group recently spent about £50 million on Trans World, the radio group, and paid £105 million for a clutch of French consumer magazines. The latest purchase brings the total spent on acquisitions to more than £250 million.

Robin Miller, Emap's chief executive, said other opportunities remained but added that the group's main efforts would now be concentrated on the businesses it had already bought.

Emap expects the acquisition of Maclean Hunter to be earnings enhancing in the current year. The business made operating profits of C$6.0 million (£3.1 million) on turnover of C$80.9 million (£41.3 million) in the year to December 31. Net assets stood at C$5.7 million (£2.9 million) at the year end. The acquisition is conditional on receipt by Rogers Communications of Canadian regulatory approval and is expected to be completed by December 31.



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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Bid speculation switches on Northern Electric

SPECULATORS were blowing a fuse as shares of **Northern Electric** surged 23p to a high of 910p amid whispers that a bid for the company is being put together by a Far East consortium.

The word is that Trafalagar House, the Cunard to Ritz Hotel group due to report tomorrow, is ready to make a tender offer of around £10 a share for almost 30 per cent of Northern. The move is likely to be backed by Hongkong Land, Trafalgar's 25 per cent shareholder controlled by the powerful Keswick family. Jardine Matheson, the Hong Kong conglomerate, may also be willing to offer financial backing for the venture.

At last night's closing price, Northern's stock market value is £1.12 billion but a full bid for the company can be ruled out until at least March when the Government's "golden share" in each regional electrical company expires.

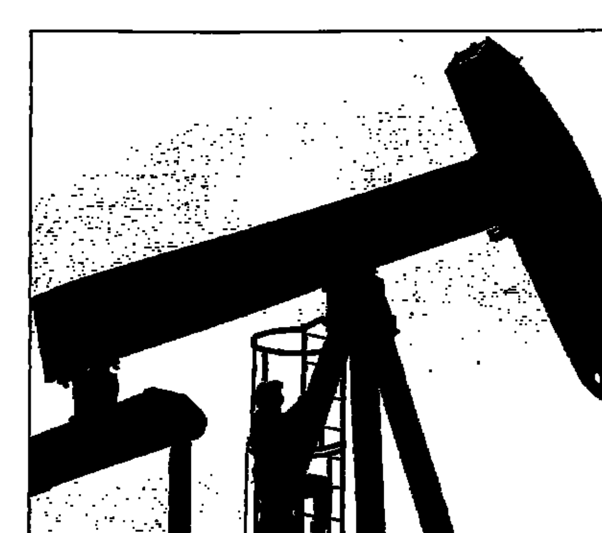
The timing of such a move has raised a few eyebrows in the Square Mile. Some brokers throught potential predators might wait until the "golden share" is dropped and the National Grid, jointly owned by the RECs is floated.

However, taking a crucial stake in Northern ahead of the Grid flotation may make sense, especially with the shares still cum their 9p dividend after the figures on Monday.

In recent weeks, other bidders have been linked with Northern, including **Hanson**, 1p lighter at 227p, and **Scottish Power** 1½p firmer at 331½p.

Elsewhere in the sector, the dividend season continued apace with **Southern**, up 6p at 756p, chipping in with a typically generous payment to shareholders of 8.3p, an increase of almost 24 per cent. This followed an increase of 20 per cent to £106.8 million in pre-tax profits and was achieved on the back of aggressive cost-cutting, which will result in shedding 25 per cent of the workforce. Speculation that the group may pay a special dividend out of reserves proved unfounded.

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market put on a drab performance; share prices closed marginally up on the day with hopes of a traditional pre-Christmas rally fading fast. The FT-SE 100 index gave up an early lead of almost 20 points, following worse-than-expected US retail sales and



Analysts are hoping BP will give them the nod today

another set of producer price figures, to move into negative territory. The index eventually closed 3 up, at 2,946.4, but it was an unconvincing performance with investors unwilling to stick their necks out ahead of today's clutch of inflation figures which may signal a further rise in bank base rates.

Among the leaders, **BP** could restart dealing in the shares without compromising their tax advantages. Many were rushing to cover short positions.

Worries about the prospect of higher interest rates and talk of a sell recommendation doing the rounds left **RMC Group** 21p lower at 969p and **Redland** 8p off at 430p.

HSBC firmed 8p to 684p

Spring Ram, the troubled bathrooms and kitchens supplier, eased ½p to 43½p as former chairman Bill Rooney sold 15 million shares, or 3.3 per cent, at 42p. This cuts his holding to 46.3 million shares, or 10.2 per cent. Last month he joined the board of Atreus, unchanged at 12½p, after buying a 32 per cent stake.

firmed 2p to 403p ahead of a presentation for brokers in the City later today. They are hoping for some positive news from the company.

Boots, the chemist, stood out with a rise of 11p to 469½p showing the first signs of life since its recent share buy-back was completed. Brokers claim that yesterday was the first day that investors, who took advantage of the buy-back, despite claims that one stockbroker had turned cautious of the shares. Dealers in London claim Hong Kong's Hang Seng index still has someway to fall which could be bad news for HSBC. **Granada Group** was a weak market losing 8p at 496p after a meeting with stockbroker Hoare Govett.

Greenalls, the pubs and hotel group, celebrated a 30 per cent jump in full year pre-tax profits to £88.2 million with a rise of 9p to 425p. The group's performance was bolstered by a first time contribution from the Devenish chain of pubs, acquired last year.

Vaux, the Sunderland brewer and hotelier, firmed 2p to 229p after raising full year pre-tax profits 13.2 per cent and lifting the final dividend to 9.8p compared with 9.5p last time. The results were boosted by a strong recovery at its Swallow Hotels.

Eurocopy, the photocopier supplier, rose 6p to 72p, for a two day gain of 8p, after lifting pre-tax profits last year £1 million to £3.6 million. The number of copiers installed rose 28 per cent to 20,000.

Better than expected profits news saw **David S. Smith** touch 509p before ending the session just 1p firmer at 499p. A recovery in its core paper markets and a sizeable contribution from its rebuilt Kemsley Mill saw half year pre-tax profits almost treble to £40.4 million. Shareholders were rewarded with an increase in the dividend from 2.75p to 4.25p.

Emap, the publisher, marked time at 376p after paying out £60 million for Maclean Hunter European Publishing, a subsidiary of the Canadian group Rogers Communications.

☐ **GILT EDGED**: Gilts were dragged lower by other European bond markets following news of a hike in Swedish interest rates. The latest retail sales combined with US producer prices to create a volatility at the lower levels leaving prices nursing falls of up to £½ at the close.

In the futures pit, the December series of the Long Gilt ended £15/32 lower at £101 17/32 as a total of 48,000 contracts were completed.

At the longer end of the conventional market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 tumbled £9/16 to £104 19/16, while in shorts Treasury 9½ per cent finished £1/4 easier at 103 5/16.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Wall Street stocks held their modest gains at midday, drawing strength from a rally in bonds and November economic data which analysts said was generally positive for markets.

The Dow was up 3.02 points at 3,723, while advances led declining issues by about 11 to 9. U.S. Treasuries were mixed, with the long bond up 19/32 to yield 7.87 per cent.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	3721.39 (+3.02)
S&P Composite	451.14 (+1.67)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	18875.48 (-99.62)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	7849.75 (+141.97)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	406.81 (+2.32)

Sydney:

AO	1852.7 (+10.6)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2011.25 (-13.57)

Singapore:

Straits	2089.14 (-2.55)

Brussels:

General	7155.86 (-33.02)

Paris:

CAC-40	1917.11 (-2.21)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	634.80 (-1.00)

London:

FT 30	2267.0 (+1.3)
FT 100	2946.4 (+3.0)
FT-SE Mid 250	3373.2 (+0.8)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1309.30 (+0.18)
FT A All-Share	1466.10 (+0.91)
FT Non Financials	1582.40 (+0.70)
FT Gold Mines	219.2 (-1.2)
FT Fixed Interest	109.49 (-0.26)
FT Govt Secs	91.49 (-0.40)
Bargains	18559
SEAQ Volume	609.8m
USM (Datastrm)	151.36 (same)
US$	1.5620 (-0.0020)
German Mark	2.4566 (-0.0036)
Exchange Index	80.4 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2859
£:SDR	1.0758
RPI	145.2 Oct (2.4%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Ashbourne (150)	151	...
Asset Mngmnt Inv (100)	95	...
Clydeport	165	-5
Dragon Oil Wts	1¼	...
Euclidian (100)	102	...
Eurovein (141)	140	...
Fidelity Spec V Uts	468	...
Fnsbry Sml Cos C (100)	98	...
First Russ Fts ($10)	620	-5
Fleming Nat Res (100)	92	+1
For & Col Emrg C (100)	102¼	-½
H Gov 1000 Ind (100)	101	...
Hydro Int (80)	83	...
INVESCO Korea C	96	...
JJB Sports (215)	230	...
Kiln Capital (100)	100	...
Mthesn Lyds (100)	86	-1
Murray Emrg Ec (100)	90	+1
Murray Emrg Ec Wrts	39	...
RAP Group	144	-1
SeaPerfect (120)	129	-3
TLG (115)	132	...
Tele-Cine Cell (170)	163	-2
Telewest Comm (182)	179	-2
Wellington Under (100)	102	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cowie n/p (190)	18	-1
Division Grp n/p (100)	21	+3
OMI n/p (37)	2	...
Saltire n/p (12)	¼	-½
Usborne n/p (25)	¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Sherriff Holdings	355p (+21p)
First Tech	364p (+34p)
Unilever	1091p (-15p)

FALLS:

Wilson Bowdn	316p (-13p)
Broken Hill	913p (-23p)
Cortecs	38p (-9p)
Siebe	533p (-12p)
Avon Rubber	481p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 28

TEMPUS

In with the inn crowd

GREENALLS is still benefiting from its inspired decision four years ago to escape from the brewing industry and concentrate on its retailing skills. Today it is half way through a remarkable transformation from being an also-ran regional brewer to becoming a national pub and hotel operator.

In the past year the group has tidied up many of the less attractive operations that threatened to thwart its ambitions. The loss-making soft drink business has gone, the off-licence chain has been reinvigorated and the downmarket hotels and American hotel chain are up for sale. This leaves it free to develop its managed house estate and the pub/restaurant business within the Premier House division. The results demonstrated the attractions of these businesses, with solid increases in both food and drink sales, while the belated decision to split out Devenish's share shows it is making a worthwhile contribution.

Greenalls' main problem is generating cash for development, since the high quality pubs and hotels it likes do not come cheap. Even though capital spending will fall to £100 million this year, cash flow will be negative by up to £10 million despite disposal proceeds of up to £20 million. This explains the group's impetus to develop cash generative businesses such as off-licences and beer wholesaling.

Whether that will be enough to satisfy the group's ambitions is unclear. More likely Greenalls still needs to pull off one or two large pub acquisitions to make itself a truly national business. But on the strength of these figures, the group would not have difficulty raising the finance in the City.

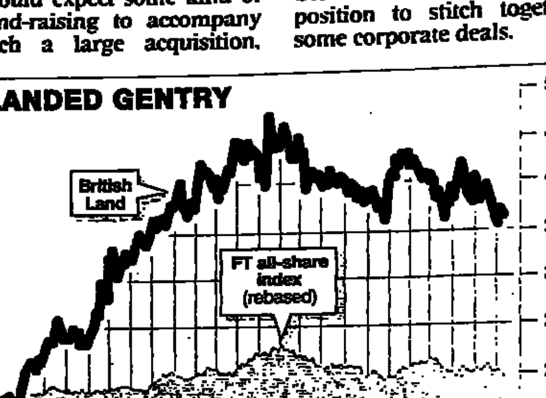
British Land

BRITISH Land has performed so well against its peers in the property sector that it looks in danger of a downgrading. Since the end of September, the property sector has lost 10 per cent — as gloom about progress on rents has been compounded by interest rate worries — but British Land has lost less than 3 per cent of its value.

Yesterday, the company gave some justification for its outperformance; rents are rising, not just due to the addition of £190 million of new property to the portfolio, but the company is beginning to see the first five-year rent increases from its superstores, where leases have built-in guaranteed rent rises.

Ultimately, what British Land offers investors to justify its rating is the promise of innovative deals, and the loss of the Quantum fund's financial muscle will limit the company's firepower. This does not mean a deal over Broadgate is impossible but it increases the pressure on British Land not to overpay; in any event, investors should expect some kind of fund-raising to accompany such a large acquisition, which will leave investors wary of the shares.

A general loss of confidence in the property share market could be good news if it pushes forward the long-delayed consolidation in the sector, and even if the prize of Broadgate proves elusive, British Land is in a prime position to stitch together some corporate deals.



Coats Viyella

WHEN Coats Viyella announced its intention to sell its fabrics, carpets and yarns businesses last month, no one expected the exercise to be easy or cheap. In the event the group has done well to sell the carpets operations so quickly. The business will almost certainly record a loss for 1994 since the carpet sales are closely linked to the depressed housing market, while rising raw material prices have squeezed margins.

Coats is staying silent on the price, but it looks to be a discount to the £30 million of net assets in the business, even though Shaw Industries had to bid against a venture capital-funded management buy-out team.

That will make it hard for Coats to raise the £100 million it is said to want from the disposal, since the yarns and fabrics business looks likely to be bought out by its management early in the new year. Even if it does achieve its target, the effects of the disposal will make the year-end accounts unhappy reading. The write-off on the sale could easily be as high as £40 million. This and the effects of poor trading in the warm winter will depress the group's bottom line for 1994, while the disposals are likely to cause some dilution next year due to the low interest rates the group will earn on the cash.

Despite the adverse short-term effects, Coats' decision to jettison these businesses cannot be faulted. Carpets had become a peripheral activity within the group, accounting for only 4 per cent of group turnover. Like yarns and fabrics, its low returns and deep cyclicality were lowering the quality of the earnings from Coats' main threads, clothing and precision engineering operations.

By recycling the cash from these disposals into its acquisitive expansion overseas, Coats will reduce its exposure to the vagaries of the British weather and economy to the benefit of its share rating.

David S Smith

SMITH shareholders waited a long time for the benefits of the group's laboured rebuilding of its Kemsley plant to appear, but now they are coming in spades. The completion of the Kemsley plant came at the right moment to feed rising demand, which has been strong enough for the company to pass on raw material price increases of up to 50 per cent. Unlike many packaging companies, Smith managed to expand operating margins to 9.6 per cent in the half-year to September compared with a meagre 5.8 per cent a year ago.

Having achieved this step change in earnings, Smith must now consolidate it, to achieve the ambitious profit hurdles that the City has already started forecasting.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	927-926	Mar	977-976
Mar	925-924	May	988-985
May	927-926	Jul	999-993
Jul	939-938	Sep	1014-1008
Sep	949-948		
Dec	965-964		Volume: 3964

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2700-2690	Sep	2612-2605
Mar	2670-2665	Nov	2610-2590
May	2635-2630	Jan	2610-2585
Jul	2620-2615		Volume: 4759

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	358.0-56.5
Spot: 405.00		Dec	354.5-51.5
Mar	402.5-01.7	Mar	354.0-50.0
May	396.0-95.0	May	353.0-48.0
Aug	386.0-85.0		Volume: 1282

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 10

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	83.88	120.00	123.68
(+/-)	+3.75	+2.40	+3.32
Eng/Wales:	84.04	119.61	123.12
(+/-)	+3.69	+1.70	+2.90
(%)	+17.0	+15.0	+2.0
Scotland:	78.68	121.78	129.12
(+/-)	+5.18	+5.29	+7.44
(%)	+3.0	-11.0	n/c

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.80	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Jan)	16.05	-0.25
Brent 15 day (Feb)	16.00	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	17.00	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	17.00	-0.30

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 161 (-4)	O: 163 (-4)
Gasoil EEC	139 (n/c)	142 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Jan	142 (+2)	143 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Feb	145 (+1)	147 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	96 (+1)	97 (+1)
Naphtha	170 (-4)	172 (-4)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Jan	142.00-42.25	Apr	146.50-46.75
Feb	144.25-44.50	May	146.75-47.25
Mar	146.25-46.50		Vol: 17361

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	16.02-16.04	Apr	15.94-15.95
Feb	15.96-15.97	May	15.95-15.97
Mar	15.93 BID		Vol: 34788

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	106.75	Jan	104.15
Mar	107.75	Mar	105.90
May	109.75	May	108.15
Jul	111.40	Sep	96.25
Sep	96.65	Nov	97.00
Volume: 248		Volume: 37	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	unq
Apr	275.0	280.5
May	unq	287.5
		Volume: 42

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Jan 94.75-95.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 94	2030	2020	2035
Jan 95	1941	1925	1935
Feb 95	1900	1866	1880
Apr 95	1805	1788	1788

Vol. 489 lots Open interest: 3387
Index 2043 +5

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2955.0-2956.0	2900.0-2902.0	1116200
Lead ($/tonne)	622.00-623.00	640.00-640.50	117550
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1096.0-1098.0	1124.0-1125.0	426000
Tin ($/tonne)	5870.0-5875.0	5965.0-5970.0	28640
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1817.0-1817.5	1847.0-1847.5	1097600
Nickel ($/tonne)	8030.0-8080.0	8175.0-8225.0	61788

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	500	34	48	55½	3½	9	14½
(*528½)	550	6	20½	28½	25	30½	37½
Argyll	240	9	17½	21	7½	11	17
(*240½)	260	2	9½	12½	21½	23½	30
ASDA	60	5	7	9	1½	2½	4½
(*63½)	70	1	2½	4½	7½	8½	9½
Boots	460	21½	34	40½	7	13	21
(*470½)	500	5½	15	21½	31	35½	43
Br Airways	330	25	37	43½	3½	10	16
(*349½)	360	8	20	27½	16½	23½	30½
BP	390	21½	30½	38½	5	11	17
(*404½)	420	7	15	23½	21	26	32
Br Steel	140	14½	20	23	1	3½	6
(*153)	160	3	9	12	9½	12½	15
C & W	330	29	40	47	3	10	15
(*354)	360	10½	23½	30½	14½	22½	28½
CU	493	16½	26	—	11	29½	—
(*494½)	543	2	9	—	48½	65	—
ICI	700	39	54	64	7½	26½	32½
(*728½)	750	12½	27	39½	30½	54	59
Kingfshr.	420	18	32	36½	10½	20	28½
(*423½)	460	4	14½	19½	37½	43½	53
Land Sec.	500	49	60½	65½	0	4	10
(*545)	550	12	26	31½	10½	19	31½
M & S	360	20½	31½	37	3½	7½	13½
(*375)	390	5	15½	21	18	22	26
Nat West	460	41	51½	58	3	16	20½
(*494½)	500	15	27½	37	16½	35½	39½
Sainsbury	390	14	27	33½	10	18	26
(*391)	420	3½	14	20½	30½	36	43½
Shell	650	44½	54½	60½	2	12½	17
(*687½)	700	11½	24	32½	19½	34½	40½
Smkl Bch.	420	22½	34½	43½	6	16½	23½
(*434)	460	5½	16½	25	29	38	44½
Storehse	200	18½	23	27½	2	5	8
(*218)	220	5	11½	16	9½	13½	17
Trafalgar	70	5	7½	8½	3	5	6½
(*70½)	80	1½	4	4½	10	11	12½
Unilever	1050	54	74½	89½	6½	23	34½
(*1091)	1100	22	45	58½	23½	46½	58
Zeneca	800	50½	65½	76	6	22	30
(*840)	850	19	37	49	24½	46½	54
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Grnd Met.	360	29	37	43½	7½	12½	18½
(*384½)	390	11½	22	28	23½	27½	32½
Ladbroke	140	15½	18½	21½	2	7	8½
(*151)	160	5½	8½	12½	11½	18	19
Utd Bisc	300	23½	29	33½	4	13	16½
(*315½)	330	8	13½	19½	18½	30	33

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	450	19½	31	—	5½	11	—
(*461)	475	6½	18	—	18½	23	—
Thames W	420	33½	47	53½	2½	8½	17
(*448½)	460	9	23½	31	18	25	37
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
BAT Ind	420	21½	30	33½	13	28	33
(*425½)	460	6½	13½	18½	38½	53½	58½
BTR	260	24	27½	32½	3½	10	12½
(*278)	280	12	16	21½	11	20	22
Br Aero	409	31	42½	—	14	26½	—
(*420)	448	14	26	—	36	48½	—
Br Telcm	360	15	25	31½	11	14½	20½
(*369½)	390	4½	13	18½	30½	32½	38½
Cadbury	390	28½	34	40½	4½	14	17
(*409½)	430	11	18½	25½	17½	29½	32½
Guinness	420	16½	26½	31½	9½	19	25
(*423)	460	3½	10	15½	37½	45½	50
GEC	240	21	27½	31	2	4½	8½
(*259½)	260	8½	15½	19	9	12	17½
Hanson	220	13½	17	20	4½	8½	11½
(*227½)	240	4	7½	11	15	19	22½
LASMO	130	11	15	18½	4	6½	7
(*136½)	140	5½	10	13½	8½	11½	12
Lucas	180	20½	25	30	3	6½	9
(*196)	200	9	14	19	10½	15½	18½
Pilkngtn	140	18	21½	25	1	2½	5
(*155)	160	5½	10	13½	8½	9½	13
Prudential	300	17	22½	27	8½	17½	20
(*306)	330	5	9½	14½	26½	36½	38½
Redland	420	25½	33	39	11½	25½	30½
(*429½)	460	8½	16	21	34½	52	55½
R-Royce	160	11	15	18½	4½	9	11
(*165)	180	3	6½	10	16½	21	22½
Tesco	220	21	27½	28½	2	7½	10
(*236½)	240	7½	15	17	8	17	19½
Vodafone	183	17	—	—	3½	—	—
(*194½)	200	7	13½	17½	10½	14½	17½
Williams	300	23	31	34	3½	11	12
(*316½)	330	7	14½	18½	17	26½	27½

FT-SE INDEX (*2948)

	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050
Calls						
Dec	148	99	49½	19½	4½	1
Jan	177½	142½	108½	80	56½	36½
Feb	200	164½	132	104	79½	57½
Mar	211½	176½	147½	118	94	73
Jun	244	—	185	—	133½	—
Puts						
Dec	1½	3½	10½	29½	64½	114
Jan	26	39½	56½	80	108	141
Feb	40	55	74	97	124	153½
Mar	57	70½	91½	113	140½	169½
Jun	82	—	121	—	169	—

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat.	390	12	26	31	3	17½	23½
(*399)	420	1	11½	17	21	36	41½
Amstrad	125	8	13½	17½	1	5	7½
(*132½)	150	0	3½	7½	17½	20½	22½
Barclays	550	41½	57	64½	1	12½	19
(*590)	600	5½	26	37	17½	35	42½
Blue Circ	260	14½	25½	30½	1	7½	15
(*273)	280	2½	14½	20½	9½	16½	25½
Br Gas	280	19½	28	33	0	4	11½
(*299)	300	3½	15½	21½	4½	12	20½
Dixons	160	16	20	25½	0	4½	7
(*175½)	180	2	9	14½	6½	13	16½
Forte	220	7½	17	21	1½	7	13
(*226½)	240	0	7½	11½	14	18	24
Hillsdwn	160	13½	18	21½	0½	2½	6
(*173)	180	1	7	10½	7½	10½	18
Lonrho	140	11½	15½	20	0½	5	7½
(*150½)	160	1	6	10½	10	15½	18
Sears	100	6	10½	12	0½	3	5½
(*105½)	110	0½	5½	7	5	8	10½
Thrn Eml	950	40½	58½	83	2	18	25
(*989)	1000	5	31	54	25½	40½	46½
Tomkins	200	11½	18	24½	0½	6	9
(*211)	220	1	8	14½	9½	16½	19½
TSB	220	9	17	21	1	10	13
(*228)	240	0½	7½	12	12½	21½	24½
Wellcome	650	17	44½	61	9	29	44½
(*658)	700	1½	22½	39	42½	57	72½
Series		**Jan**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Jan**	**Apr**	**Jul**
Glaxo	600	37½	51½	68	9½	26	33½
(*625)	650	13	27½	44	34	52½	59½
HSBC	650	45½	64	75	10	29	36
(*683½)	700	17½	37½	50½	30½	55	62½
Reuter	420	44	53	61	3	9	14
(*459½)	460	16	29	38	13½	24½	30½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Jul**	**Feb**	**May**	**Jul**
Royal Ins.	260	25½	31	35½	5	11½	13½
(*277½)	280	13½	21	25½	13	21	23
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Fisons	110	5	13	16	2	7	10
(*113)	120	1	8½	12	8	12½	15½
Series		**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**	**Feb**	**May**	**Aug**
Eastern Gp	750	34	56½	66½	30½	45	56
(*756½)	800	14½	35	45	62	74	85
Series		**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Jun**
Natl Pwr.	460	7	26	38	6	19	27½
(*460)	500	0	10	20½	40	43½	52
Scot Pwr.	330	7	19	30	4½	18½	24½
(*332)	360	0	8	17½	28	37½	43

December 13, 1994 Tot: 39062 Call: 20119 Put: 18943 FT-SE Call: 7194 Put: 8960
*Underlying security price.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 70358)	Dec 94	2945.0	2950.0	2926.0	2940.0	16816
	Mar 95	2963.0	2967.0	2947.5	2956.5	6690
FT-SE 250 (Previous open interest: 5332)	Dec 94	3370.0	3375.0	3370.0	3370.0	80
	Mar 95	3402.0	3402.0	3380.0	3401.0	17
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 499937)	Dec 94	93.48	93.49	93.47	93.48	8490
	Mar 95	92.52	92.54	92.46	92.50	40106
	Jun 95	91.90	91.91	91.82	91.86	9922
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 4653)	Dec 94	93.59	93.59	93.59	93.58	10
	Mar 95				92.62	0
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 763580)	Dec 94	94.47	94.47	94.38	94.41	23261
	Mar 95	94.29	94.29	94.22	94.27	63376
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 128287)	Dec 94	102-10	102-13	101-31	102-07	819
	Mar 95	101-28	101-29	101-09	101-17	49180
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	108.68	108.68	108.61	108.67	1451
	Jun 95				107.99	0
German Gov Bd Bund (Previous open interest: 166619)	Mar 95	89.86	89.89	89.50	89.69	105132
	Jun 95				89.07	0
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 36276)	Dec 94	93.63	93.63	93.55	93.55	1305
	Mar 95	93.36	93.27	93.12	93.13	2990
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 41296)	Dec 94	95.73	95.74	95.70	95.70	2095
	Mar 95	95.39	95.39	95.34	95.38	4901
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 44534)	Mar 95	98.80	98.86	98.23	98.66	39251
	Jun 95				97.95	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¼ Finance Hse 6¼
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¼ Low 5½ Week fixed: 6¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6; 3 mth 6⅛. Sell: 2 mth 5⅞; 3 mth 5⅞.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅜-6¼	6⅞-6⅝	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6½-6⅜	7⅛-6⅞	7⅝-7½
Interbank:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6½-6⅜	7⅛-6⅞	7⅝-7½

Overnight: open 6⅛, close 5½.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	7⅛	7⅝
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅞-6⅞	7⅝-7⅝
Dollar CDs:	6.12	n/a	6.35	6.87	7.65
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	7⅝-7⅝

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Nov 30, 1994 Agreed rates Dec 26, 1994 to Jan 24, 1994 Scheme III: 7.39 %. Reference rate Nov 1, 1994 to Nov 30, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 6.107 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6⅝-6½	5⅛-4⅞
Deutschemark:	5⅛-4⅞	5⅛-5	5⅛-5	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-4⅞
French Franc:	5⅛-5⅛	5⅝-5½	6-5⅞	6⅛-6	5⅛-4⅞
Swiss Franc:	3⅛-3⅛	4-3⅞	4⅛-4	4⅛-4⅛	4-3½
Yen:	2⅛-2	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-1⅞

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $377.80-378.20 **Close:** $378.20-378.70 **High:** $379.00-379.50 **Low:** $377.15-377.65 **AM:** $378.70 **PM:** $379.10

Krugerrand: $378.00-380.00 (£241.75-243.75)

Platinum: $411.25 (£263.45) **Silver:** $4.77 (£3.055) **Palladium:** $153.25 (£98.15)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Dec 13	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.7418-2.7568	2.7418-2.7452	⅛-⅛pr	⅛-⅛pr
Brussels	50.37-50.64	50.37-50.47	5-1pr	13-8pr
Copenhagen	9.6010-9.6510	9.6010-9.6160	¼-⅛pr	1¼-⅛pr
Dublin	1.0111-1.0182	1.0111-1.0138	+1pr	4pr-1ds
Frankfurt	2.4485-2.4612	2.4485-2.4518	⅛pr-par	⅛-⅛pr
Lisbon	250.95-252.36	250.95-251.59	82-94ds	240-268ds
Madrid	205.92-206.47	205.92-206.21	31-58ds	89-102ds
Milan	2554.60-2564.50	2554.60-2557.90	5-8ds	18-21ds
Montreal	2.1610-2.1706	2.1627-2.1658	0.02-0.07ds	0.08-0.21ds
New York	1.5600-1.5640	1.5600-1.5610	0.02pr-par	0.03-0.01pr
Oslo	10.6930-10.7450	10.6930-10.7090	⅛-⅛pr	1⅛-⅛pr
Paris	8.4400-8.4770	8.4400-8.4550	⅛-⅛pr	1⅛-1pr
Stockholm	11.7310-11.8540	11.7310-11.7550	1⅛-2ds	4⅛-5⅛ds
Tokyo	156.34-156.84	156.34-156.60	1⅛-⅛pr	1⅛-⅛pr
Vienna	17.25-17.33	17.25-17.29	2⅛-1⅛pr	5⅛-4⅛pr
Zurich	2.0741-2.0849	2.0741-2.0771	⅛-⅛pr	1⅛-1pr

Source: Extel Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2898-1.2906
Austria	11.06-11.07
Belgium (Com)	32.34-32.35
Canada	1.3856-1.3861
Denmark	6.1670-6.1700
France	5.4195-5.4205
Germany	1.5724-1.5731
Hong Kong	7.7395-7.7405
Ireland	1.5355-1.5370
Italy	1640.75-1641.25
Japan	100.22-100.27
Malaysia	2.5634-2.5639
Netherlands	1.7610-1.7620
Norway	6.8685-6.8715
Portugal	161.10-161.20
Singapore	1.4660-1.4665
Spain	132.05-132.10
Sweden	7.5310-7.5385
Switzerland	1.3325-1.3335

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5577-1.5604
Australia dollar	2.0138-2.0160
Bahrain dinar	0.5835-0.5945
Brazil real*	1.3173-1.3214
Cyprus pound	0.7425-0.7525
Finland markka	7.580-7.696
Greece drachma	376.25-383.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.0837-12.0907
India rupee	48.54-49.56
Kuwait dinar KD	0.463-0.473
Malaysia ringgit	4.0027-4.0048
Mexico peso	5.32-5.42
New Zealand dollar	2.4503-2.4530
Pakistan rupee	47.56 BID
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.795-5.923
Singapore dollar	2.2893-2.2908
S Africa rand (fin)	6.4354-6.4709
S Africa rand (com)	5.515-5.617
U A E dirham	5.675-5.799

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	374	Legal & Gn	534
ASDA Gp	10,000	Lloyds Bk	1,700
Abbey Natl	2,300	MEPC	1,700
Alld Dom	4,100	Marks Spr	8,500
Argyll Gp	6,300	NatWst Bk	3,900
Arjo Wiggn	2,300	Nat Power	5,700
AB Foods	202	Nth Wst W	669
BAA	4,200	P & O	1,300
BAT Inds	5,700	Pearson	1,500
BOC	744	PowerGen	4,500
BP	7,000	Prudential	2,400
BTR	9,600	RMC	1,400
BT	9,100	RTZ	5,100
Bk of Scot	1,400	Rank Org	1,000
Barclays	4,600	Reckitt Col	1,300
Bass	1,900	Redland	2,100
Blue Circle	2,300	Reed Intl	941
Boots	4,600	Rentokil	650
Bowater	1,100	Reuters	5,400
Brit Aero	719	Rolls Royce	6,400
Brit Airwys	2,000	Ryl Ins	1,300
Brit Gas	8,900	Ryl Bk Scot	1,700
Brit Steel	6,000	Sainsbury	1,900
Burmah Cstl	566	Schroders	209
Cable Wire	5,500	Scot & New	740
Cadbury	2,700	Scot Power	3,300
Caradon	3,300	Sears	5,700
Carlton Cms	468	Svrn Trent	1,100
Cm Union	1,100	Shell Trans	4,100
Courtaulds	837	Siebe	1,000
De La Rue	923	SmKl Bch	3,800
Eastern Elec	1,700	Smith Nph	2,300
Enterpr Oil	1,700	Sthern Elec	1,400
Forte	1,300	Std Chard	4,600
GKN	1,000	Sun Allnce	2,000
GRE	6,100	TI Gp	1,300
GUS	2,000	TSB	3,900
Gen Acc	2,300	Tesco	3,700
Gen Elec	7,200	Thames W	3,400
Glaxo	4,900	Thrn EMI	741
Granada	1,700	Tomkins	4,800
Grand Met	4,600	Unilever	3,200
Guinness	2,500	Utd Bisc	839
HSBC	4,800	Vodafone	3,700
Hanson	10,000	Warburg	1,800
ICI	2,800	Wellcome	2,400
Inchcape	1,900	Whitbread	1,200
Kingfisher	3,700	Wllms Hld	2,300
Ladbroke	3,500	Wolseley	881
Land Secs	1,700	Zeneca	1,100

WALL STREET

	Dec 13 midday	Dec 12 close
AMP Inc	70¼	70¼
AMR Corp	49¼	49¼
AT & T	49¼	48¾
Abbott Labs	32	32½
Advanced Micro	23¼	23¼
Aetna Life	45½	45¼
Ahmanson (HF)	16½	16¼
Air Prod & Chem	44¼	44¼
Albertson's	28¼	28½
Alcan Alumnm	23¼	24
Alco Standard	55½	56
Allied Signal	32¼	31¼
Alum Co of Am	79½	80¼
Amax Gold Inc	6¼	6¼
Amerada Hess	44½	44¼
Amer Brands	34	34¼
Amer El Power	33½	33¼
Amer Express	29¼	29¼
Amer Genl Corp	27¼	27¼
Amer Home Pr	66¼	66¼
Amer Intl	95	95½
Amer Stores	25¼	25¼
Ameritech	40¼	40¼
Amoco	62¼	61½
Anheuser-Busch	50¼	50
Apple Computer	36½	36½
Archer Daniels	19½	19¼
Armco	6	6
Armstrng Wrld	36½	36¼
Asarco	27¼	27¼
Ashland Oil	33	32½
Atl Richfield	103¼	103¼
Auto Data Pro	54¼	52½
Avery Dennison	33½	33¼
Avon Products	60¼	60¼
Baker Hughes	17½	17¾
Baltim Gas & El	22¼	22¼
Banc One	26¼	25½
BankAmerica	41	39¼
Bank of NY	28	27¼
Bankers Tr NY	58¼	57¼
Barnett Banks	39¼	38¼
Bausch & Lomb	31¼	31
Baxter Intl	26	26
Bectn Dicknsn	48¼	47¼
Bell Atlantic	50¼	50¼
BellSouth	53¼	53¼
Black & Decker	23¼	23¼
Block (H&R)	36¼	35¼
Boeing	47¼	47¼
Boise Cascade	24¼	24¼
Borden Inc	13¼	13¼
Bristol Myrs Sq	58	58¼
Browning Ferris	27¼	26¼
Brunswick	17¼	17¼
Burlington Nthn	49¼	49
CBS	52¼	52¼
CNA Financial	64¼	63¼
CPC Intl	53	52¼
CSX	65¼	65¼
Campbell Soup	42¼	42¼
Can Pacific	14¼	14¼
Cpd Cities ABC	78¼	79¼
Carolina Pwr	27¼	27¼
Caterpillar	51¼	51¼
Central & SW	23¼	23¼
Champion Intl	35	34¼
Chase Manhtn	36¼	35¼
Chemical Bk	38¼	37¼
Chevron Corp	43¼	43¼
Chrysler	46¼	46¼
Chubb Corp	71¼	71¼
Cigna Corp	64¼	64¼
Citicorp	42¼	41¼
Clorox	59	59¼
Coastal Corp	26¼	26¼
Coca Cola	50¼	49¼
Colgate-Palmolive	62¼	62¼
Columbia Gas	22¼	23
Compaq Comp	38¼	38¼
Comp Ass Int	44¼	45¼
Conagra	31¼	31¼
Cons Edison	26¼	26¼
Cons Nat Gas	34¼	34¼
Cons Rail	49¼	49¼
Cooper Inds	32¼	31¼
Corning Inc	30	30¼
Crown Cork	36¼	37¼
Dana Corp	21¼	21¼
Dayton Hudson	78¼	78¼
Deere	62¼	62¼
Delta Air Lines	46¼	47¼
Deluxe Corp	26¼	26¼
Detroit Edison	27	27¼
Digital Equip	34¼	33¼
Dillard Dept St	26¼	26¼
Disney (Walt)	43¼	42¼
Dominion Res	37¼	37¼
Donelley (RR)	28¼	28¼
Dover Corp	51	50¼
Dow Chemical	63¼	64
Dow Jones	29¼	29¼
Dresser	18¼	18¼
Duke Power	41¼	41¼
Dun & Brdstreet	52¼	52¼
Du Pont	53¼	53¼
Eastman Kodak	45¼	45¼
Eaton Corp	44¼	44¼
Emerson Elec	60¼	60
Engelhard Corp	21¼	21¼

	Dec 13 midday	Dec 12 close
Enron Corp	29¼	29¼
Enserch	22¼	22¼
Ethyl Corp	10¼	10¼
Exxon	61¼	62
FMC Corp	56¼	56¼
FPL Group	35¼	35¼
Federal Express	55¼	55¼
Fed Nat Mtge	69¼	68¼
First Chicago	46¼	45¼
First Interstate	69¼	68¼
First Union Rlty	6¼	6¼
Fleet Finl Grp	31¼	30¼
Fluor Corp	43¼	43¼
Ford Motor	25¼	25¼
GTE Corp	30¼	30¼
Gannett	47¼	47¼
Gap Inc Del	31¼	31¼
Gen Dynamics	41¼	42¼
Gen Electric	48	47¼
Gen Mills	55¼	54¼
Gen Motors	37¼	37¼
Gen Reinsurance	118¼	118¼
Gen Signal	32¼	33
Genuine Parts	34¼	34¼
Georgia Pac	72	72¼
Gillette	72¼	71¼
Glaxo ADR	19¼	19¼
Goodrich (BF)	43¼	42¼
Goodyear Tire	32¼	32¼
Grace (W&R)	36¼	36¼
Grt Atl Pac Tea	19¼	20
Great Wstn Fin	16¼	16¼
Halliburton	34	33¼
Harcourt General	33¼	33¼
Heinz (HJ)	37	37
Hercules	109¼	111
Hershey Foods	47¼	47¼
Hewlett Packard	94¼	95¼
Hilton Hotels	67¼	68¼
Home Depot	45¼	44¼
Homestake Mng	17¼	17
Honeywell	29¼	29¼
Household Ind	36¼	36
Houston Inds	35¼	35¼
Humana	20¼	20¼
ITT Corp	81	80¼
Illinois Tool	40¼	40¼
Illinova	20¼	20¼
INCO	28¼	28¼
Ingersoll Rand	30¼	30¼
Inland Steel	34	34¼
Intel Corp	60¼	60¼
IBM	70¼	70¼
Intl Flav & Fr	46¼	45
Intl Paper	73	73
James River Va	20¼	20¼
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	53¼	53¼
Kellogg	59¼	59¼
Kerr-McGee	44¼	44¼
Kimberly-Clark	49¼	49¼
Kmart	14¼	14¼
Knight-Ridder	48¼	48¼
Lilly (Eli)	62¼	62¼
Limited Inc	18¼	18¼
LIN Brdcsting	140	140
Lincoln Nat	36¼	36¼
Litton	34¼	34¼
Liz Claiborne	21	21
Lockheed	66¼	67¼
Louisiana Pac	27¼	27¼
MCI Comm	19¼	19¼
Marriott Int	27	26¼
Marsh & McLnn	75¼	74¼
Masco Corp	22	21¼
May Dept St	33¼	33¼
Maytag Corp	14¼	14¼
McDonalds	28¼	28¼
McDonnell D	141	142¼
McGraw Hill	66¼	65
Mead Corp	46¼	46¼
Medtronic	53¼	53
Mellon Bk	32¼	30¼
Melville Corp	29¼	29¼
Merck Inc	37¼	37¼
Merrill Lynch	33¼	33¼
Minnesota Mine	52¼	52¼
Mobil Corp	84¼	85¼
Monsanto	71¼	72¼
Morgan (JP)	59¼	59¼
Motorola Inc	55¼	55¼
Natl Medical	12¼	12¼
Natl Semi	18¼	18¼
Natl Service Ind	25¼	25¼
Navistar Intl	13¼	13¼
NBD Bancorp	28¼	28
NY Times A	22¼	22¼
Newmont Mng	35¼	35¼
Niag Mohawk	14¼	14¼
Nike B	65¼	65¼
NL Industries	9¼	9¼
Noram Energy	5¼	5¼
Nordstrom	45¼	46¼
Norfolk Sthrn	60¼	60¼
Nthn State Pwr	46¼	46
Norwest Corp	22¼	22¼
Nynex Corp	37¼	37¼
Occidental Pet	19¼	19¼
Ohio Edison	18¼	18¼
Oracle Systems	40¼	39¼
Oryx Energy Co	11¼	11¼

	Dec 13 midday	Dec 12 close
Owens Corning	29¼	29¼
PNC Financial	21¼	21
PPG Industries	36¼	36
Paccar Inc	43¼	43¼
Pacificorp	19	19
Pac Enterprises	20¼	20¼
Pac Gas & Elect	24¼	24¼
Pac Telesis	28¼	28¼
Pall Corp	19¼	19¼
Panhandle East	20¼	20¼
Parker Hannifin	44¼	44¼
Peco Energy	24¼	24¼
Penney (JC)	42¼	41¼
Pennzoil	45¼	45¼
Pepsico	35¼	35¼
Pfizer	75	75
Phelps Dodge	57¼	57¼
Philip Morris	56¼	56¼
Phillips Pet	32¼	32¼
Pitney Bowes	31¼	31¼
Polaroid	30¼	30¼
PriceCostco	13¼	13¼
Procter & Gmbl	62	62
Providian	30¼	30¼
Pub Serv E & G	26¼	26¼
Quaker Oats	30¼	30¼
Ralston Purina	44	43¼
Raychem Corp	33¼	33¼
Raytheon	63¼	63¼
Reebok Intl	36¼	36¼
Reynolds Metals	47¼	48¼
Roadway Srvcs	49¼	48¼
Rockwell Intl	35¼	34¼
Rohm & Haas	57¼	57¼
Royal Dutch	106¼	107
Rubbermaid	27¼	27¼
Safeco Corp	50¼	49¼
St Paul's Cos	42¼	41¼
Salomon Inc	36¼	36¼
Santa Fe Pac	16¼	13¼
Sara Lee Corp	25¼	25
Seecorp	15¼	15
Schering Plough	73¼	74¼
Schlumberger	51¼	51¼
Scott Paper	66¼	66¼
Seagram	29	28¼
Sears Roebuck	45¼	44¼
Shell Trans	64¼	65¼
Sherwin Wllms	31¼	31
Skyline Corp	18¼	18¼
Snap-On-Tools	31¼	31¼
Southern Co	21	20¼
Sthwestern Bell	41¼	40¼
Sprint Corp	30¼	29¼
Stanley Works	35¼	36¼
Sun Company	27¼	27¼
Sun Microsys	32¼	33
Suntrust	48¼	48
Supervalu	22¼	22¼
Sysco Corp	26	25¼
TRW Inc	64	64
TCC Inds	2¼	2¼
Tandem Comp	16	16¼
Tandy Corp	47¼	47¼
Teledyne	17¼	17¼
Temple Inland	44¼	44¼
Tenneco	39¼	38¼
Texaco	62	62¼
Texas Inst	72¼	72¼
Texas Utilities	32¼	32¼
Textron	49¼	48¼
Time Warner	32¼	32¼
Times-Mirror	30¼	30¼
Timken	33¼	33¼
Torchmark	34¼	34
Toys R Us	35	34¼
Transamerica	47	47¼
Travelers	31¼	31¼
Tribune	50¼	50¼
Tyco Labs	45¼	45¼
UST Inc	27¼	27¼
UAL	89¼	89¼
USX Marathon	17	16¼
Unicom	24¼	24¼
Unilever NV	111	111
Union Camp	47¼	47¼
Union Carbide	28¼	28
Union Pacific	45¼	45¼
Unisys Corp	8¼	8¼
USAIR Group	4¼	4¼
USF&G Corp	13¼	13
US Life	34¼	34¼
US West	35¼	35¼
United Tech	58¼	58¼
Unocal Corp	26¼	25¼
Upjohn	31¼	31¼
VF Corp	46¼	46¼
WMX Tech	25¼	25¼
Wal-Mart Stores	22¼	22¼
Warner-Lambert	76¼	76¼
Wells Fargo	146¼	143¼
Westinghouse El	12¼	12¼
Weyerhaeuser	36¼	37¼
Whirlpool	45¼	45¼
Whitman	16	16¼
Winn-Dixie	52	52
Woolworth	14¼	13¼
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	46¼	45¼
Xerox	99¼	91
Yellow Corp	20¼	20¼

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Deutsche aims for the big time

NERVOUSNESS over the S G Warburg-Morgan Stanley merger talks has started to feed the rumour mill about Deutsche Bank's ambitions. After its recent announcement that it was concentrating its international investment banking activity in London, where it is proud owner of Morgan Grenfall, the leading German commercial bank has left no doubts about its desire to become a leading world player in investment banking. Ronaldo Schmitz, the management board member of Deutsche Bank who is to head the international investment banking arm, now reveals the scale of his bank's ambition. Deutsche Bank, he says, expects to be competing on an equal footing with the big three investment banks — Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs and Merrill Lynch — in a few years. Often said to be the godfather of the Germany's post-war economic miracle, Deutsche was yesterday, however, quick to end speculation that it is thinking of taking over James Capel, as the next move in its strategic expansion.

Staying put

PEARSON, the media group, has reached out across the "Pond" for extra muscle to its management team. Frank Barlow, the managing director, is to get a deputy. David Veit, a Briton who has been in America for as long as anyone can remember. But Veit, an Oxford hockey blue, just turned 56, has no plans to relocate to London. Having happily run the Pearson's Houston oil services business from New York, he is about to adopt a similar approach to his new job. He will fly the Atlantic twice a month to keep in touch, otherwise, it appears that Veit will be staying very much put at his Westchester County home. These are the sort of executives the airlines simply adore.



"Even retailers have stopped believing in Father Christmas."

Very much alive

WHAT's in a name? David Bishop, architect of a planned restructuring of the UK accountancy profession, is growing used to seeing his name in headlines. He told a meeting in Leeds this week that "Bishop's Moves" and "Pawns in Bishop's Game" were just about palatable, but drew the line at "Bishop Dead". Colleagues had telephoned to check out the truth of the headline. Not all, he adds, were pleased to hear his voice.

Beer match

JUST a year after the trauma of having the Central Bank of Spain dismiss its board, Banco Espanol de Credito (Banesto) has gained a potential new shareholder to join such names as Royal Bank of Scotland and First Fidelity. The new shareholder Modelo, Mexico's biggest brewer, has come on board with a 3 per cent stake. For a bank that found its former chairman, Mario Conde, far too bubbly, bringing in a beermaker must at least appear interesting.

COLIN NARBROUGH



Mail being sorted at a district head office. The Post Office is looking enthusiastically at investment in automation, at least for counters

Post Office delivers record profit to rebuke opponents

The Post Office is getting on with business after sell-off fiasco, **Philip Bassett** reports

When the Post Office this morning announces half-year figures which will put it on track for another record annual profit, senior managers will be ready for the I-told-you-so accusations from the successful opponents of privatisation. In campaigning for a sell-off, the Government and the Post Office never got past the "if it ain't broke, why fix it ?" charge — and today's results will be seized on as vindicating public ownership.

Bill Cockburn, the Post Office chief executive, is well aware of that. "It *isn't* broke," he says. "It looks good. We are proud of it. But it looks better than it really is. All we said is: don't be seduced by today's situation. Our profitability is being driven by the need to meet the Government's cash target, and the competitive forces against us are becoming more and more sharp. That's why we need commercial freedom."

That remains the Post Office's central case, even after the abandonment of the privatisation which the Government and the Post Office Board said was the only way of delivering that greater freedom. After two-and-a-half years of what managers refer to as "planning blight" caused by the Government's review of the corporation's future, its Green Paper on the same issue and finally the Cabinet's decision to block privatisation because of implacable opposition from a small group of backbench Conservative MPs, the Post Office feels its development is back to square one.

Even worse for managers is that while they feel the corporation's future has been frozen, international competitors have not been standing still. Germany's post office , which is seen by the UK Post Office as the most potent threat to its market, is now a Companies Act-style company, while Denmark's parliament carried similar legislation a few weeks ago. The Dutch post office is privatised, and postal services in Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore are heading the same way.

"While we've been standing still, the world has changed," Mr Cockburn says. "We could find ourselves, as one of the countries that started the whole thing off, on whom most others have modelled themselves and to whom they look as a benchmark — and we are the most successful in the world at the moment — watching as they go by us towards greater commercial freedom, and here we are doing nothing."

Doing nothing does not come easily to the energetic Mr Cockburn, even after the hard pounding he and the Post Office have had from Whitehall and the politicians. Indeed, the Post Office has not been sitting still. Whatever its frustration with the Government, it is still getting on with business — and a huge business at that: 64 million letters every working day, 28 million people visiting Post Offices every week, more retail outlets than all the main banks and building societies put together.



Bill Cockburn: energetic

Mr Cockburn says: "There's no paralysis here. We have a vast business to run, and we're getting on with it, but the fundamental issues remain unaltered."

Post Office leaders accept that privatisation is off the political agenda, at least until the general election, in spite of the Prime Minister's support for it — unmade, to the Post Office's irritation, during the Green Paper period over the summer — and of pledges to continue to press for it from pro-privatisers such as Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor, and Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade. Indeed, the prospects of privatisation being revived have if anything worsened since it was abandoned a month ago. Mr Cockburn does not accept the suggestion floating around Whitehall that part of the reason for privatisation going down was that the Post Office and he himself overplayed their hands. He also rejects any suggestion that he and Mike Heron, Post Office chairman, have made their positions as heads of a nationalised industry untenable because of their support for the sell-off. And despite the paintings of trains on the walls of his office, he denies the rumours that he will be leaving to head the privatisation of Railtrack.

Instead, he insists both he and the Post Office will continue to battle on for commercial freedom — freedom from the constrictions of government finances and freedom to strike out in new commercial ventures.

Privately, though, senior managers acknowledge that will not be easy. Although the Treasury mounted the strongest opposition to greater commercial freedom for the Post Office because of what it saw as its precedent-setting implications for others, Mr Heseltine too has left the Post Office in no doubt that he is as opposed to such a course, as is the Chancellor.

What, then, the Post Office's management want to know from the Government, is the corporation supposed to do ? The one thing that all sides — ministers, the Post Office, its customers and employees, opposition parties, industry, pressure groups and others — said was unacceptable, the status quo, is what the Post Office has ended up with. Managers look forward to MPs on the Commons' Trade and Industry Select Committee putting that point to Mr Heseltine at hearings in the new year. MPs are already saying in private that if he fails to give them a satisfactory answer on the corporation's future, they will take the issue on to the floor of the House. Mr Cockburn is still civil servant enough to seem uncomfortable when it is put to him that given Labour's clear support for greater commercial freedom for the Post Office, the corporation would be better off under a Labour government.

Although many senior managers do believe that, Mr Cockburn says: "If there is a change of government, and Labour has said it wants to see greater commercial freedom, then it will be interesting to see whether that would come about."

Some managers doubt whether Gordon Brown, as a Labour Chancellor, would be any less keen than Mr Clarke to walk away from the money the Post Office pumps back into the Treasury annually: this year it is £226 million, next year £213 million, although many accept that Labour would want to keep faith with an industry it regards as perhaps the best example of public ownership working well.

Mr Cockburn himself rejects the idea, supported by some of his close colleagues, that with no commercial freedom, the Post Office is now in effect in opposition to the Government. "Whoever is the government of the day, we need to work with them to see how we can best manage a successful business. There is no mileage in a head-on confrontation. That won't take the industry forward."

But management is now genuinely unsure what will take the industry forward. They will look enthusiastically at using the Government's private finance initiative, headed by Eurotunnel's Sir Alastair Morton, to help to fund the investment for automating Post Office counters by putting on-line terminals in every local post office. And they claim the whole privatisation affair has not been wholly negative for the Post Office.

In spite of good figures such as today's, the managers believe they have no long-term framework in which to operate, but they are determined to find one. "Our argument was not deficient," Mr Cockburn says. "The Government rejected it not because they were opposed to the argument: it failed because politically they could not get it through. And that gives us something solid on which to build."



ANTHONY HARRIS

The futile search for true figures

Michael Portillo is in trouble again for seeking a new statistical measure of employment. Unemployment is falling; but employment is falling too, though more slowly. It is easy enough to think of possible explanations — early retirement, more youngsters in education (although often for lack of job opportunities), an unrecorded growth in self-employment; but his officials have explored all these, and doubtless many more, and still they cannot make the figures add up. So let us switch the definition. It could hardly look more suspicious.

Nothing new, all the same. The search for special factors to explain away embarrassing numbers is an old one. One of my early reporting jobs was to attend the monthly briefing at which Tony Crosland puffed a sceptical cigar while officials tried to put a gloss on the trade figures. "Any special factors which might have made the figures better rather than worse?" someone asked. "We never looked for them" said the official; and Crosland simply laughed. This exchange may indeed may be one of the things that shamed the department into more respectable habits; we don't hear about special factors these days, simply lumpy or volatile items.

Yet there have been times when it might have been better to look a little harder. Distortions can have real political and economic effects. The jumbo jets which caused a completely phoney balance of payments "crisis" in 1970, when Edward Heath won his upset victory, is the best known political example, but worse was to follow. During, and even more after, the 1976 IMF crisis, the import numbers were inflated by arrival of exploration rigs to develop the North Sea oilfields. Most belonged to foreign oil companies, so nobody had to pay; but the raw numbers caused a non-stop sterling crisis, distorted policy and fathered a whole school of catastrophe theory, before the accounts swung dramatically into surplus as they came on stream.

Then, it was groundless panic; at the moment it might be desirable to put a slow puncture in complacency. The official figures show at the moment that the British trade account is stronger than expected, consumer spending weaker, and saving unusually high. Ministers talk of a new golden age. Well, perhaps; but what about the bootleg factor? The Irish learned about this years ago, when Garrett Fitzgerald tried to tackle a fiscal crisis with truly punitive duties on drink, tobacco and heavy consumer durables. Result: revenue did not rise, but the current account swung suddenly into surplus. Explanation: Irish liquor, tobacco and durables were exported to the North by the trainload, and smuggled back by the car load.

It is a bit like that here now. Everyone knows that with the arrival of the single market, cross-Channel shopping has grown explosively. The licensed trades grumble, and shed crocodile tears for the Chancellor, whom they estimate will lose £525 million in revenue this year.

Nobody, though, seems to gross these figures up to get the macroeconomic numbers, so I will have a try. About £1.25 billion of consumer spending is lost to the official figures on account of drink alone. Add on tobacco, food and other shopping, and it may be as much as £2 billion. And if half this is spent on British goods, that means that £1 billion of British "exports" are simply reimported, unrecorded.

So this trade may already account for nearly a quarter of the celebrated improvement in our trade balance; and it will certainly grow, especially if Brussels rules that you don't have to go to Calais; just order through an agent. Add on clubs, back street stores and car boot sales, the bootleg part of the trade, and we could soon be talking serious money. But we'll never know for sure; that, as Mr Portillo will learn in his search for concealed jobs, is the nature of the black economy. More important, perhaps, it is part of the nature of the single market. As the European economies merge, we will know less and less about them.

Jon Ashworth examines the latest tribulations

Saatchi's image in need of polish as share option comes under fire

For someone who made his fortune creating glossy images for others, Maurice Saatchi seems to suffer a curious short-sightedness when it comes to his own persona. The chairman of what was once the world's greatest advertising agency is facing the prospect of not only being kicked off the Saatchi & Saatchi board, but of seeing the Saatchi name stripped from the letterhead. And all on account of a £5 million share option plan.

American shareholders are said to be incensed by proposals for a "super option scheme" under which Mr Saatchi would qualify for a £5 million bonus if the company's share price were to double in the next three years. The scheme, drawn up by the company's remuneration committee, would entitle him to shares worth eight times his previous salary of £625,000 — drastically cut this year after shareholder pressure.

A group of shareholders speaking for a third of the Saatchi shares and led by Harris Associates of Chicago feel the proposed scheme is rather too generous. Not only do they want it scaled back, but they are questioning whether Mr Saatchi should not be removed from the board and booted on to Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Worldwide, its operating subsidiary. With a last twist of the knife, they want the board to consider changing the name of the holding company.

Saatchi & Saatchi will not comment on the reports, although directors are expected to consider the proposals soon. Mr Saatchi is unlikely to be too perturbed by the storm. He should be fairly immune to criticism. It has come in a steady torrent since October 1989, when he and his brother, Charles, announced they were to step aside as joint chief executives of Saatchi & Saatchi. The shares had never recovered from a disastrous attempt to buy Midland Bank just ahead of the October 1987 stock market crash. Half-year profits went on to tumble by two thirds in the summer of 1989 as a high cost structure began to bite. The company reported a loss of £58 million for the year.



Charles Scott, left, chief executive, with Maurice Saatchi, whose rewards have been attacked

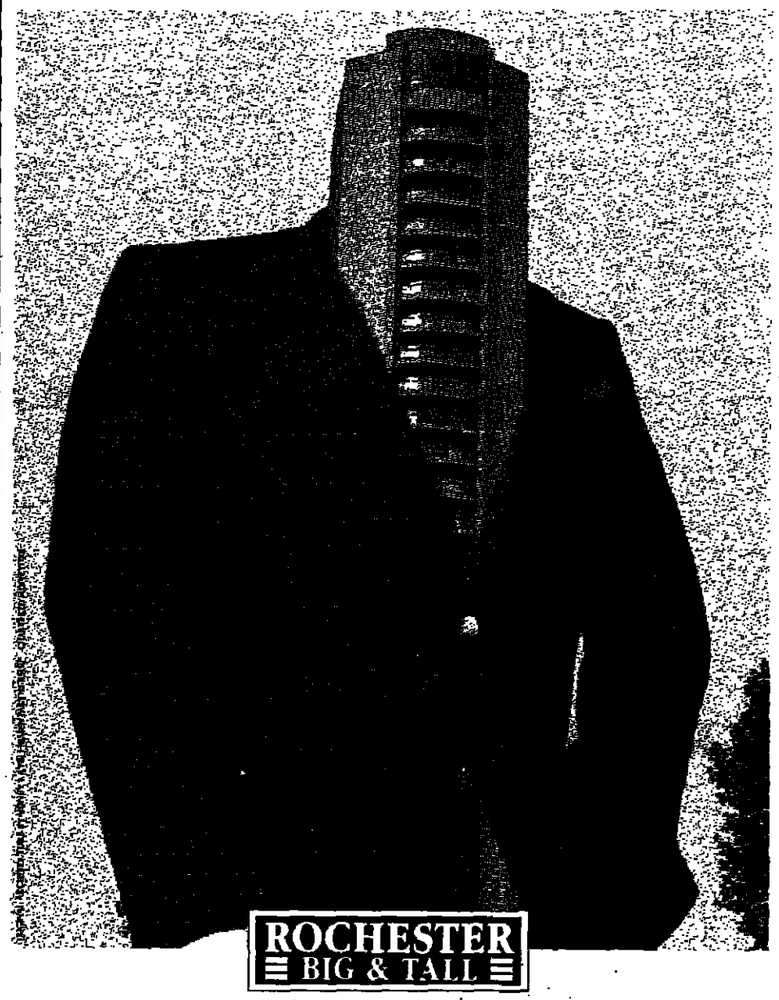
The company that helped Margaret Thatcher to power on the back of the famous "Labour Isn't Working" campaign was looking a little rusty itself. The new management eventually produced a £400 million rescue package aimed at putting the company back on the road to recovery.

The pay debate began raging last Christmas, when the reclusive Charles Saatchi said he was leaving the board at the age of 50 to become honorary president. His brother stayed on as chairman, locked in on a salary of £625,000 on a five-year rolling contract, but drawing only half of it because of the company's financial state.

Mr Saatchi abandoned the five-year contract under pressure in March and agreed to his base salary being cut to £200,000 plus bonus. The performance-related bonus was to be based on revenue growth while a proposed share option scheme would be linked to the share price. It is details of this scheme, given a passing mention in March, that have now exploded into the headlines.

Meantime, the recovery continues. In August, the company unveiled an interim pre-tax profit of £15.3 million, up 68 per cent on the previous £9.1 million. It also beat stiff competition to win the National Lottery advertising contract, potentially worth between £25 million and £50 million a year. The shares were unchanged at 155p yesterday.

HILTON SPORTS FINE WOOL BURBERRYS BLAZER.



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Equities mark time

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380½	Abbey Nat	389	-3	4.9	13.4
314	233	Allied Irish	248	...	5.1	9.5
278¾	171	Ans New Z	198	+2	8.3	*
3300	2462½	Bank America†	2550	...	...	...
247	172½	Bank Scotland†	202	+1	3.3	11.4
640	487	Barclays	580	...	3.5	18.2
319	246	Bk of Ireland†	286	-1	5.0	8.3
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2543¾	-50	...	...
285½	203	Close Bros	229	...	4.1	*
£150½	£121¼	Commerzbk	£130¾	-25	6.2	...
1296½	1058¼	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1143¾	-3½	0.5	...
£344¼	£270¼	Deutsche Bk	£286¾	-30¼	2.3	...
1315¾	787½	Espirito Santo	815¼	...	4.7	4.1
90	59¾	First Nat Fin	59¾	...	3.2	...
1549¾	1152¾	Fuji Bank Y	1304	-2	0.4	*
473	209	Hambros†	238	-1	7.9	14.5
1113	660	HSBC	684	+8	4.5	9.9
1133	664	HSBC HK	671	+5	4.6	9.7
443	400	Joseph (L)†	410	...	5.4	11.9
693	424	Kleinwort Ben	546	-7	4.4	9.6
660	519	Lloyds	547	+6	5.3	10.8
620¼	472	Nat Aust Bk	530	+3	6.9	*
622	421	Nat West	494	+4	4.9	9.2
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2150	...	6.8	*
79	53	Rea Bros	61	...	1.9	17.1
528	377½	Ryl Bk Scotl	404	+2	4.3	9.8
1574	1050	Schroders	1433	-2	1.6	13.1
1456	1043	Schroders NV	1308	+3	1.8	12.0
114	75	Singer & Fried	87	-1	4.5	11.2
359¼	223	Stand Chart	264	...	3.0	9.1
291	197	TSB	228	...	4.4	11.5
1012	569	Warburg SG†	784	-9	3.6	14.4
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9212½	-12½	2.9	...
360	194	Westpac	213½	+¼	2.6	...
380	203	Wintrust	213	...	6.0	14.2

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
10¼	1½	Ascot Hldgs	1½	...	...	...
619	485	Bass	511	+2	5.3	12.5
299	248	Boddington	251	-4	4.1	13.5
196	168	Burtonwd Brwt	177	-1	3.6	14.8
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	151	...	3.2	*
66	46½	Fosters Brewing	53	-1	5.6	*
493	345	Fuller Sm 'A'	345	-3	2.9	14.2
511	399	Greenalls Gp	426	+9	3.9	20.7
584	452	Greene King	533	-1	3.0	14.8
355	239	Hardy Hanson	241	...	5.0	*
170	135	Heavitree	150	...	3.4	13.5
3773	3125	Holt J	3425	-18	1.8	18.9
246	195	Mansfield	235	...	2.5	14.3
314	256	Marston Thmpt	291	-1	2.5	14.2
545	463	Morland†	472	...	2.8	*
10¼	6½	Paramount	7¼	...	3.4	...
303	209	Regent Inns	297	-1	2.3	22.8
1665¼	1000	SA Breweries†	1456¼	-12½	2.0	22.6
591	477	Scot & New	487	+1	4.5	13.8
306	227	Vaux Group	229	+2	5.5	14.7
439	324½	Wetherspoon JD†	434	...	1.9	23.9
617	494	Whitbread†	527½	-1½	4.5	14.4
589	493	Wolvrhmptn Dl	516	...	3.4	12.6
194	148	Yates Bros†	190	...	2.0	23.5
535	465	Young 'A'†	485	...	4.0	19.7

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	133	Abbey	133	-2	4.9	9.7
200	148	Allen†	161	-2	4.3	19.1
164	67	Amec	68	-1	5.5	39.2
125	47	Andrews Sykes	125	...	...	...
462	333	Ashtead	423	...	1.6	26.7
191	101	Avonside	104	+2	5.3	12.2
41	26	Bailey (Ben) Con	34	...	2.6	20.8
88	18½	Barcom	41	...	5.3	4.9
292	139	Barratt Devs	145	+4	5.2	11.3
169	122½	Beazer Homes	126	-3	5.4	9.9
304	179	Bellway†	180	-1	4.9	*
59	31	Belwinch	31	-1	...	27.3
573	329	Berkeley Gp	329	-1	2.8	13.6
215	118	Bett Bros†	179	...	3.1	5.5
355	210	Bost (Henry)	218	...	3.8	10.7
85	35	Brandon Hire	83	-1	2.3	...
235	160	Br Bldg & Engt	160	...	6.2	10.0
197¾	118	Bryant	118	-2	5.3	13.3
145¼	107	CALA	107	...	5.3	14.8
54	31	Campbl & Arm	35	...	...	...
62	44	Clarke T	48	...	3.2	41.6
42	20½	Costain	21¼	-¼	...	...
185	108	Countryside	109	...	5.0	*
120	74	Crest Nicholson	74	...	2.7	13.7
140	98	Cussins	98	...	4.3	11.8
30	19	Edmond Hldgs	#21	...	1.8	...
473	288	Eve Group	290	...	4.8	11.7
60	24	Galliford	26	...	4.8	...
112	87	Gibbs & Dandy	88	...	3.8	...
1028	823	Gleeson (MJ)†	828	...	2.1	14.2
86	71	Green (Ernest)	86	...	8.7	26.5
191	121	Havelock Europ	173	...	2.2	15.8
169	139	Hewden-Stuart	139	-2	2.7	16.0
144	86	Higgs & Hill	87	...	3.6	...
32	30	Howard Hldgs	32	...	4.5	29.5
35	6	Jarvis	11	...	...	...
138	104	Keller	113	...	5.3	4.8
428	204	Laing (J)	219	-4	5.1	19.8
154	90½	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	94	-½	8.5	...
145	115	Lon Clydeside	122	...	4.9	16.9
173	53	Lovell (YJ)	55	-2	...	...
262	196	Maunders (J)	215	...	3.2	*
321	156	McAlpine (A)	156	-1	5.2	22.3
76¼	50¼	McCarthy & S	61	-2	...	...
195¼	34	Mowlem (J)	35	...	2.6	...
279¼	138	Persimmon	163	-2	2.1	14.1
2129¼	1450	Pochins	2103¼	-97½	1.9	21.1
135	125	Prowting†	125	...	3.6	19.0
115	45	Raine Ind	45	-1	8.3	9.4
132	94	Redrow	95	-2	3.5	9.6
61	50	Sellд-Pire	59	...	1.6	27.8
505	333	Sheriff Hldgs	385	-27	1.9	...
112	62½	Shepco	112	...	4.2	15.4
245	156	Smart (J)	215	...	4.9	22.6
286	155½	Snowden	255	...	1.3	29.5
257	151	Tay Homes	159	...	5.1	11.7
183	114½	Taylor Woodrw	122	-2	1.9	29.8
760	538	Tilbury Dougls	563	...	7.2	43.6
60	36	Tons Hire	55	...	2.0	28.7
40¼	22	Try Group	22	...	2.8	...
129	90	Vibroplant	109	-3	4.3	19.6
170	118	Wardhomes	118	-5	5.2	12.7
74	48	Ward Hldgs	51	...	1.2	...
225¼	132	Westbury†	133	+1	5.1	12.1
7¼	3¼	Wiggins	5¼	-	...	...
259	155	Wilson (C)	155	-5	2.4	12.9
571	318	Wilson Bowdn	318	-13	3.7	14.2
249	126	Wimpey G	128	-1	5.1	19.1

BUILDING MATERIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
37	12	Albrighton	14	-1	4.5	13.3
341	283	Alumasc	338	...	2.2	*
66¼	43½	Amberley Gp	48	-1	3.2	26.7
363	274	BPB Indt	282	-1	3.7	14.5
142	93	Baggeridge Brk	114	...	3.4	21.5
60	31	Baxton	31½	...	7.9	...
244	125	Berisford Intl	208	+1	0.3	...
93	58	Blockleys	59	...	1.9	...
391	262	Blue Circle	274	-6	5.1	19.5
117	77	Breedon PLC	79	...	7.3	22.6
154	128	Br Dredging	135	...	5.3	16.0
409	321	CRH	335	-1	2.0	17.0
70	31	Calebread Rby	38	...	...	4.1
278	198	Camel	198	...	6.9	12.6
455	224	Caradon	228	-2	4.9	15.1
219½	114	Caradon pl	116	-½	7.8	...
62	46	Chelfdn Gp	54	...	8.1	10.8
134	89	Dyson (J&J)	103	+5	4.2	15.5
97	68	Dyson 'A'	69	...	6.4	10.2
11¼	4½	Eclipse Blinds	10	...	2.3	...
350	273	Ewin	278	-1	3.6	16.5
82	57	Erith	59	...	3.0	33.2
218	160	Graham Gp	170	-1	3.4	16.2
399	337	Halstead (J)	343	...	2.7	15.8
511	284	Hepworth	298	-5	6.2	17.0
88	46	Hewetson	85	...	2.2	14.7
205	85	Hewitt (J)	140	-5	2.1	...
473	258	Heywd Wlm	258	-6	6.5	14.5
100	67	Ibstock	76	...	1.6	...
294	149	Johnston†	263	...	2.1	31.6
170	108	Lilleshall	108	...	5.4	11.3
213½	129	Marley	133	-1	3.9	15.8
155	126	Marshalls	134	...	4.2	11.8
569	343	Meyer Intl	343	-3	3.9	13.4
196	146	Newman Tnks	172	-3	4.7	21.7
212½	106	Norcros	106	-1	8.5	19.5
20	9	Phoenix Timber	11	...	...	...
208	156	Pilkington†	156	-2	3.2	28.9
185	126	Polypipe	132	-2	2.2	15.2
1079	805	RMC Gp	969	-21	2.6	20.0
40	16	Ramus	17	...	...	...
640	425½	Redland	430	-8	7.3	19.9
106	70	Rosler	98	...	5.5	...
185¼	103	Rugby Group	105	-6	4.1	13.2
103	62	Russell (A)	89	...	3.2	18.3
366	222	SIG	255	-1	2.7	20.5
21	16	SWP	16½	...	1.5	23.0
200	155	Sharpe & Fisher	177	-1	3.1	13.0
81½	42	Spring Ram	43½	-½	1.4	...
206	113	Tarmac	113½	-1	6.1	...
220	160	Tilon	161	...	3.6	*
370	274	Travis Perkins	286	...	3.8	17.8
36	21	Tudor	23	...	1.4	...
54	33	Unigroup	36	...	...	...
63	33	Westbrick	49	-3	...	...
129	87	Wickes	90	...	1.8	30.2
975	705	Wolseley†	743	+3	2.8	14.6

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3¼	1¼	Anglo Utd	2	...	...	...
110	73	App Holo	86	...	...	...
165	107	Allwoods	120½	...	5.2	...
11	6¼	Bailey (CH)	8¼	...	...	...
48	30	Black Arrow†	44	+1	8.8	7.0
124	70	Br Bloodstock	77	...	...	69.1
13	5¼	Caird Gp	6	...	...	16.7
16¼	4¼	Chemex	8¼	...	...	...
157	109	Cosalt†	140	...	7.1	9.8
237	186	Filofax	219	-1	1.2	18.7
50	28	Headway	40	...	2.2	31.1
282	234	Havelock	253	...	3.7	*
248	163	Leigh†	163	...	6.0	16.1
274	214	Mabo Gp	224	...	3.3	14.4
310	207	Photo-Me†	252	...	2.4	26.3
60	38	Plant & Gert	58	...	3.9	*
189	82	Pendbrook	173	...	2.5	20.4
12½	5½	Porth Group	6	...	...	...
51¼	5¼	Rodime	10	...	...	...
120	78	Shanks & McEwan†	78	-2½	3.3	...
244	174	Sinclair (Wm)	183	-2	4.9	14.1
700	404	Waste Mgt Intl	408	-32	...	15.4

CHEMICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
155½	113½	Allied Colloids	119	+1	2.6	16.7
790	705	Amber Indt†	780	-3	3.4	15.5
£140¼	£106½	BASF DM	£122¼	-26	7.6	...
787	627	BOC†	707	-9	4.4	28.7
373	281	BTP	285	...	4.6	17.8
£160¼	£129¼	Bayer DM50	£137¼	-3½	6.6	...
131	98	Brent Chems	102½	...	4.9	...
304	219	Br Vita	228	...	4.1	17.0
25	18	Cambridge Ion	19	...	...	...
199	153	Canning (W)	182	-2	5.0	30.8
580	420	Courtaulds†	426	+5	4.4	20.0
389	327	Croda	361	+1	3.0	15.5
143	95	Doeflex	133	...	4.3	13.4
68½	35½	Euro Colour†	59½	-1½	2.8	17.2
149	110	Elebond	117	...	6.0	10.6
223	131	Hickson	131	-2	7.6	11.7
£153¼	£108¼	Hoechst	£125¼	+106¼	5.8	...
250	153½	Holliday Chem	203	-1	2.7	16.6
888	727	ICI	729	-4½	4.7	58.9
191¼	108½	Kalon	108½	-	5.1	10.3
843	675	Laporte	675	-4	3.9	17.1
95	48	MTM	79	-1	0.8	...
405	295	Manders	295	...	4.2	14.3
127	100	McLeod Russell	113	...	6.9	...
129	61	Merotect	68	...	6.5	9.0
678¼	358¼	Montedison	445¼	-¼	4.4	20.7
349	285	Porvair	290	...	1.9	21.8
272	186	Scapa†	184½	-½	3.8	15.8
66	29	Sutcliffe Speak	29	...	3.0	17.1
852½	656	Takeda Chem	762	-3	0.8	14.2
490	337	Wardle Storeys†	340	...	6.3	18.9
220	191	Wellington Hldg	191	...	3.4	18.5
823	570	Wolstenholme R	793	...	3.0	16.6
483	345	Yorks Chem	352	...	2.9	15.2
336	258	Yule Catto	277	...	3.0	21.0

DISTRIBUTORS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	106	ABI Leis	108	...	4.8	*
300	248	Acatt	288	...	2.9	78.1
575	253	Adam & Harvey†	560	-5	3.5	7.0
31	21	Alexanders	21	...	3.0	19.5
175	114	Appleyard	114	-1	8.4	20.1
6	3¼	Ass Br Eng	4¼	...	1.4	58.8
578	485	BSS Group	520	...	4.4	18.1
29½	17	Bearing Power	22	-¼	8.0	...
405	249	Blenkhy Mtr	280	+1	5.0	10.7
40	28	Bogod 'A'	38	...	3.1	*
370	288	Bramner	344	+2	4.7	19.1
31	15¾	Bridgend Grp	16	...	1.6	...
99	78	Brit Fittings	82	...	3.4	...
71	44	Brown & Tawse	44	-2	...	...
57	35	Burndene	40	...	6.2	11.7
465	245	Caffyns†	258	...	5.4	18.1
59	24½	Castel Pict	26½	-1½	5.2	14.7
130	84	Central Mtr	88	...	5.6	21.8
51	32½	Cook (DC)	39	...	3.7	11.8
342½	197½	Cowie A	208	-1	5.5	10.3
192½	127	Dag Motors	138	-2	5.9	15.9
683	446	Denmans El	593	...	1.4	16.6
828	420	Diploma†	422	-1	4.0	*
689	443	Electrocomponts†	468	-6	2.7	19.2
175	133	Erection House	151	-2	2.8	15.6
283	225	Ellis & Everard	283	...	3.6	19.4
234	201	Eurodollar†	205	...	5.2	16.0
173	108	European Mtrt	111	...	5.1	12.1
539¼	395	Evans Halshaw	400	...	4.4	12.6
656	490¼	Farnell Elect	520	-9	1.9	21.3
78	50	File Indmar	60	-1	5.7	9.8
34	16¼	Gardiner	16½	...	5.7	7.6
46	20	Glenchewton	20	...	...	22.1
90	69	Gowrings	71	...	3.5	21.5
76	59	Hallen Hldgs	73	...	...	57.0
161	122	Harris (Philip)†	141	...	6.1	12.4
342½	268¼	Henlys	272½	-1	3.4	14.6
191	88	Holders Tech	92	...	8.2	10.0
138	110	ISA Intl	110	...	1.9	13.7
609	395	Inchcape†	436	...	4.3	14.5
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58	...	...	13.4
184	145	Kwik-Fit	156	-3	3.2	17.9
573	292½	Lex Service	292½	-11½	5.7	11.2
282	182	Lookers	194	...	4.4	12.1
20	14¼	Malaya Grp	14½	-1½	2.2	...
8¼	3½	Middlesex ©	8	+¼	...	...
440	279	Norbain	427	+2	0.7	20.5
100	47	Northamber	81	...	1.8	38.4
175	152	PCT	152	...	6.1	14.7
310	232	Pendragon	255	...	3.7	15.8
236	161	Perry Gp	161	-1	5.4	8.8
218	133	Quicks Group	133	...	4.9	14.0
163	97	REA	158	...	4.7	32.7
5¼	2¼	Reesra	2½	...	...	...
34	4	Ross Gp	4½	...	5.6	...
42	32½	SEP Intl	34½	-¼	3.9	...
44	31	TLS Range	37	...	3.4	14.9
285	215	Time Prodsct	235	...	4.7	15.8
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	151	...	3.8	14.3
335	247	Wholesale Ftgs	247	...	5.9	*
30¼	14	Wills Gp	14	...	4.5	7.9
68	39½	Wistrawt	87½	...	1.2	22.8
69	40	Wyko	58	...	1.1	*
96	61	Young (H)†	68	...	6.6	*

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Adwest	157	...	6.0	16.9
380	199½	Antofagasta	338	...	1.3	27.3
62	48	Armour†	49	...	4.6	10.2
988	773½	Broken Hill	913	-23	2.4	35.2
401	273	BTR	277	-1½	5.6	14.6
570	372	BAT†	425½	+1½	6.1	11.7
91	49	Bibby (J)	66	+2	5.9	...
57¼	44	Brierley Inv	45¼	+¼	9.8	...
836	636¼	Charter†	797	+2	3.6	22.7
385	226½	Cookson	238	+1	3.4	21.5
302	217½	Masonit	227½	-¼	6.4	17.6
220	142	Harrisons Crsfd	142	-2	7.9	16.2
365¼	239¼	Hutch Whmp	245¼	+6	2.3	17.4
710	409¼	Jardine Math	459¼	+13¼	3.2	10.4
36	27¼	Jourdan (T)†	30	...	4.2	29.6
175½	124½	Lonrho	150½	-2½	3.3	41.3
44	16	Porter Chadbn	42	...	...	...
705	513	Powell Duffryn†	528	-2	6.2	14.9
164	118½	Rapport	127	-1	7.4	14.4
489	337	Rotherm	440	...	5.5	21.3
34¼	9¼	Sallira	12½	...	...	4.8
163¼	105	Sime Darby▼	121	+4	3.7	15.0
267	178	Stanley†	178	...	6.0	52.0
220	156½	Suter	156½	...	7.4	15.1
358	220	TT Group	232	-2	2.4	*
289	202	Tomkins	211	+6	4.4	13.5
124	71	Trafalgar H	71	-1	1.8	...
440	245	Unitech	295	...	3.6	15.2
374	246½	Wassall	273	-2	1.6	33.4
13¼	9¼	Whitney	9½	...	...	...
414¼	311	Williams Hldg	317	-2	5.2	19.6

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
894¼	610¼	East Midlands	723	+17	4.5	57.1
866	566	Eastern Grp	756	+4	4.1	16.4
753	534	London Elect	702	+19	4.0	10.7
871	635	Manweb	780	+8	3.9	9.3
840	547	Midlands Elec	756	+13	4.2	11.5
530	401¼	National Powr†	460	-8	3.6	12.6
920	589	Northern Elec	910	+23	3.8	11.3
421	325	Nrn Ireland	362	+2	4.2	9.8
850	587	Norweb	785	+12	4.0	10.0
602	443	PowerGen†	435	-12	3.5	10.5
477	307	Hydro-Elec	325	+3	5.1	10.2
488	325	Scottish Power	331½	+½	4.9	10.3
453	336	Seeboard	431	+21	3.7	11.1
840	591	Sth Wales	786	+19	4.7	10.5
934	561	Sth Western	723	+31	3.7	10.5
837	540	Southern Elec	756	+6	4.1	10.9
795	532	Yorkshire Elec	715	+21	4.1	13.9

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
109	63	Acorn Comp	98	...	...	...
650	478	Admiral	625	...	1.3	19.5
138	163	Alba	198	...	3.2	15.3
250	125¼	Amstrad	132	-2	2.4	...
39	24	Arlen	32	+1	...	...
94¼	78	Aztec	83	+½	1.4	17.0
281	118	Adam	137	+½	2.7	11.1
478	325	BICC†	332	+7	7.2	20.9
283	229	Beales Hunter	244	...	5.0	*
16	7	Berkeley Bus	7½	...	...	...
535	402	Blick	423	-1	3.5	*
380	280	Bowthorpe	282	...	3.1	16.2
21½	14½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	16½	...	1.9	9.8
283	211	CML Micro	211	...	3.6	13.5
35¼	20¼	Colortds	30¼	-¼	0.6	57.8
117	81	Copyright	110	+5	4.9	*
202	146¼	Cray Elect	153	+1½	1.8	17.8
467	412	Critchley†	403	...	2.3	19.5
388	269	Danka Bs Syst	295	+2	0.7	21.6
586	430	Delta	451	+2	4.0	19.3
560	400	Domino	555	...	1.9	23.8
80	63	Dowding Mills	69	...	4.6	25.2
1635	1230	Druck	1465	...	0.9	27.3
3756¼	2300	Electrolux 'B'	3159¼	+34¼	1.7	54.1
38½	21	Emess	29½	-½	0.4	...
4040¾	2737½	Ericsson 'B'	3456¼	+118¼	1.1	30.1
86	56	Eurocopy	72	+6	3.5	*
451	343	Eurotherm	390	-1	1.6	23.1
402	334½	Falcon Group	389	...	2.0	20.6
283	180	Forward Grt	188	...	3.7	11.6
58	14½	Forward Tech	40	...	2.3	6.8
353½	259½	GEC	259½	-1	5.3	12.9
191	102	Gestetner	102	...	2.9	...
191	119	Grasby	142	...	5.3	13.3
193	121	Ind Control	138	...	4.5	17.6
385	325¼	Kenwood Appl▲	328	-2	3.6	16.0
890	730	Kershaw (A)	890	...	3.9	41.0
165	39	Kode	58	...	8.6	...
56	45	LPA Ind	45	...	4.4	...
320	250	MTL Inst	290	-1	1.8	18.0
281	210	Memec-Sw	248	...	2.1	19.4
45	31	Microvitec	35½	-½	...	17.8
494	185	Mitel	200	...	...	...
148	109	Murray Elt▼	114	...	2.3	...
31	19	Orbis	21	...	3.7	*
91	64	Pacer Systems†	84	-1	6.9	23.1
98	74½	Peek†	82½	...	5.2	20.8
2175	1400	Philips Lmp ny	1862½	+12½	1.0	8.5
£115	9750	Philips Fn 4%	£110	...	5.2	...
358	282	Pifco	357	...	2.6	24.2
344	283	Pifco 'A' Vtg	331	...	1.7	22.7
140	70	Plasmec	120	...	3.9	...
129	90	Pressac▼	95	...	3.7	18.3
43¼	17¼	Prestwick	24½	...	...	...
303	181	Psion	250	...	1.5	17.5
261	187	Racal Elect	215	-1½	2.6	17.5
53	33	Radamec	45	...	5.3	12.3
311	226	Rolbaro	236	...	2.4	17.2
80	15	Scantronic	20½	...	5.1	...
48	34	Silvermines	39	-2	2.6	23.2
94	61	Sounddiffs	61	-1	4.9	13.8
104	38	Stat Bus	38	...	12.2	5.9
19	8¼	TDS Circuits	9¼	...	...	...
3225	2265¼	TDK	2868¼	-31¼	1.1	*
447	364	Zetopk Tech	388	-2	...	...
170	77	Telemetrix	77	...	1.6	9.8
101	51	TBI	82	...	3.1	17.0
349	191	Telspec	344	...	0.9	41.6
246	133	Thorpe FW	230	-1	1.7	16.8
43	22	Total Systems	36	...	...	37.4
303	215	Tunstall	256	...	1.9	*
364	256	Unitech	349	-4	2.3	27.3
18	8¼	Verity	9	...	...	24.2
483	304	Volex	385	...	5.8	16.2
200	80	Wakebourne	78	-2	...	...
182	93	Whitecroft	161	...	2.7	25.4

ENGINEERING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
185	119	AIM	166	...	3.4	44.3
138	60	APV	63½	-½	8.7	...
220	157	ASW	195	...	3.8	...
126	20¼	Aero Hamble	31	...	15.1	3.1
21¼	14	Aerospace Eng	16	...	5.9	45.4
73	27½	Alvis	42	-1	3.0	29.2
175	143	Ash & Lacy	143	...	5.6	14.8
553	490	Atlas Equip	549	...	5.0	18.3
125	86	Ayrshire Metal	121	-2	1.5	14.8
51	24½	BM Gp	43½	-1	...	...
40¼	26	Babcock	28	...	...	...
176	132	BWI†	135	...	6.2	20.7
88	64	Baynes (Charles)	84	...	2.8	21.5
95	33	Beasford	35	...	...	...
128	110	Bitton (J)	111	...	6.0	6.9
329	262	Bodycote†	311	...	2.2	21.2
75	43	Booth Inds	70	...	...	...
20	15	Bestway	16	...	4.1	16.3
171	130	Bridon†	157	...	3.2	...
578¼	380½	Br Aerospace▼	420	-7	2.7	30.9
172¼	121½	Br Steel†	133	...	2.9	18.5
125	88¼	Bromsgrove Ind	92	-½	6.1	11.7
18¼	9¼	Brooke Tool	12¼	...	...	...
186	135	Bullough	158	...	4.8	26.0
79	55	Bundesk	73	-1	3.2	31.3
22	14	CI Group†	15	...	2.5	...
293	247	Cardo Eng	258	...	4.4	16.8
155	110	Castings†	144	-1	2.5	17.7
230	150	Cambridge HM	150	-5	5.6	9.5
380	272	Chemring	282	...	4.1	14.9
295¼	180	Clyde Blowers†	181	...	3.1	...
334	285	Cobham	323	-3	3.0	16.4
688	403	Cohen (A)	535	...	0.8	...
269	178	Concentric	184	...	4.2	...
310	234	Cook (Wm)†	234	-1	4.0	11.0
298	198	David Brown	220	...	3.7	15.5
97	70	Dobson Park	78	-1	8.0	15.4
442	364	EIS†	381	...	4.1	15.3
101	80	Elliott (B)†	100	...	2.5	15.0
118	80	Expamet	89	...	3.7	63.1
212	149	FKI†	149	-½	3.5	17.2
148	109	Fenner	140	...	1.3	*
45	31	Firmstn	31	...	...	...
88	73	GEI Intl	74	...	4.2	13.5
134	91	Galton Eng	122	...	4.7	...
404	321	Glynwed	333	+5	4.4	19.5
14½	10	Graystone†	12¼	...	2.4	10.9
85	61	Hadn MacLn	69	...	3.8	17.8
131	90	Hadleigh†	129	-2	2.4	14.6
320	143	Hall Eng	174	-1	5.8	15.6
256	204	Halma	220	+1	1.5	25.7
73	47	Hampson Ind	56	...	4.6	10.4
48	26	Hay (Norman)	26	...	...	...
184½	132	Hill & Smith	132	...	5.5	14.3
63	39	Hopkinsons	52	-1	3.1	...
41	27	How Gp	34	...	2.8	...
103	78	Howden	85½	-½	3.6	14.1
265	157	Hunting†	164	...	7.6	23.4
513	402	Huntlgh Tec	428	...	1.5	20.0
379	286	IMI	316½	+1½	4.0	26.9
51	33¼	Johnson & FB	38½	+½	...	...
638	486	Johnson Matthy	547	-2	2.8	20.4
32	25	Jones Stroud	30	...	...	...
320	230	Kelsey Ind	293	...	3.4	...
258	205	Lucal	258	...	3.3	18.1
20¼	11	Locker (T) A†	12	...	4.2	...
49	36	ML Hldgs	38	...	4.0	12.5
67	26	MS Intl	26	...	7.2	15.7
179	120	Mang Bronze	137	...	3.6	10.7
539	399	McKechnie	399	-5	4.6	23.5
120	71½	Meggitt	77	...	6.4	12.4
120	101	Metalrax	104	...	4.5	17.3
133	99	Metsec	131	...	2.9	18.2
589	502	Molins	502	...	3.9	10.1
408	310	Morgan Crucbl†	315	+1	5.1	15.3
217	176	Morris Ashby	205	...	3.8	14.6
51	34	Neepsend†	35	...	4.5	17.8
128	51	Neotronics	51	...	6.4	11.0
60	45	Newmark (L)	45	...	...	...
59¼	39	Old Intl▼	39½	+½	5.5	...
358	277	Oxford Inst	335	...	1.9	18.8
341	218	Powerscreen†	238	-1	3.9	10.0
23¼	13½	Prospect Indst	14	...	7.8	7.2
108	60	Radiant Metal	73	...	...	...
71	13	Ransomes	61	-1	...	...
95	70	Record	84	...	5.4	18.9
287	243¼	Renishaw	274	+1	3.0	23.1
188	136	Renold†	184	...	2.8	25.5
73	51	Richard (Leics)	58	...	5.0	40.1
104½	76	Richardson West	77	...	5.3	16.9
204	161	Rolls-Royce†	164½	-5½	3.8	29.0
195	156	Rotork	165	-2	3.3	16.8
190	134	Rubicon	139	...	4.1	15.7
150½	72	Senior Eng	81	...	6.2	13.2
270	245	Servomex	265	...	3.1	28.4
630	500	Siebe	533	-12	2.7	17.0
130½	73	Simon Eng	87	...	...	...
82	35	Sir Hydrault	77	...	2.4	36.6
1459¼	1062½	SKF 'B'	1069¼	...	...	...
527½	411	Smiths Indt	432	-6	3.8	16.6
465	337	Spirax-Sarco	462	-1	2.7	19.2
267	197	Sterling Ind	228	-1	3.9	14.6
455	343	TI	355	-4	4.0	19.6
121	92	Tinsley (E)	117	...	6.0	19.0
105	45	Transfer Tech	59	...	7.9	8.4
183	125	Triplex Lloyd	127	+1	7.0	...
18½	12	Utd Inds▼	16½	...	0.8	...
1548	980	VSEL	1343	...	3.3	12.6
31½	12	Vernon	15½	...	...	...
204	163	Vickers	174	-2	2.5	18.4
327	230	Victaulic	230	...	4.4	12.6
19	8½	Villiers Grp	8½	...	...	...
524	451	Vinten†	523	+1	1.9	13.7
805	681	Vosper Thornyc†	723	...	3.3	15.7
527	451	Wagon Ind	454	-4	5.1	22.8
354¼	246½	Weir	273	...	3.0	16.3
45¼	37½	Wellman	42	...	3.0	67.9
546	365	Whatman	365	...	3.6	13.4
264	90	Whessoe	106	+7	9.7	8.1

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	21	AAF Inds	32	...	...	...
160	108	Airflow Stream†	158	...	3.1	15.6
639	474	Avon Rubber	481	-10	4.4	*
238	173	BBA	195	-2	2.9	...
85¼	54¼	BSG†	54¼	-1½	7.4	33.9
18¼	8¼	Benson Group	9	...	4.6	12.4
306	180	Bostrom	300	...	2.5	17.7
26½	17	Boustead	23	...	4.4	...
22	11¼	Cavendale	12	-¼	1.8	12.2
332	275	ERF	324	...	0.8	...
384	236	First Tech	364	+34	1.8	20.8
660	510¼	GKN	605	-1	4.2	35.4
4367¼	2337½	General Mtr	2375	-12½	2.2	...
1238	918¼	Honda Motor	1074½	-20¼	0.4	...
432¼	331	Laird▼	344	-2	4.0	18.6
350	233	Loadss	350	...	...	...
238	158	Lucas†	195	...	4.5	...
64	51	Mayflower	51	...	3.4	20.7
124	67	Midstates	87	-1	...	9.3
178	149	Syltone	163	...	3.9	17.9
281	157	T & N	157	-2	8.6	13.7
333	263	Trinity Hldgs†	313	+1	2.6	22.7

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	499	AB Food	558	-2	3.6	11.4
368	248	Acatos & Hutch	248	...	4.3	9.9
74	40	Albert Fisher†	43	-2	10.8	14.6
270	210	Banks (S C)	212	...	5.7	8.1
376	305	Barr (AG)	370	...	2.3	23.9
72	35	Barsons Crsp	38	...	7.1	...
481	378	Booker†	397	+3	6.9	14.6
56¼	48	Borthwick†	48¼	...	3.3	23.5
212	156	CPL Aromas†	205	...	1.8	19.6
455	404	Cadbury-Schw	409	-1½	4.7	13.5
253	143	Carrs Milling	229	...	3.5	*
167	130	Cranswick	143	...	7.4	11.7
154	90	Dalepak	108	...	1.8	*
453	389	Dalgety†	418	...	6.3	11.7
87	50	Daniels S	54	...	0.7	...
294	210	Devro	217	-1	3.6	14.6
101	52	Everest	65	...	4.8	24.4
8¼	4¼	Fatmagold	4¼	...	...	...
85	61	Finlay (James)†	61	...	8.5	8.3
20½	13	Global	14	...	4.5	12.8
68	38	Good Central	48	...	...	...
194	104	Hazlewood Fdst	107	...	7.8	6.7
196½	151	Hillsdown†	173	-2	6.4	12.3
35	16	Hobson	32½	...	...	...
111	88	JLI Group	89	...	6.9	12.3
408	313	Linton Park	355	...	6.2	10.1
127	85	Matthews (B)	118	-1	2.9	14.2
181	160	Man ED & F	171	+4	6.3	9.4
246	205	Nichols (JN)	233	...	3.1	15.0
271¼	193	Nor Foods	204	+2	5.6	10.3
14	9	Wtmanton Fn	11	...	...	...
46	25	Pascoe's	28	...	...	...
81	62	Perkins Food	67	...	8.3	11.2
95	73	Seeby Farm	83	...	3.4	8.4
122	71	Sims Food†	74	...	12.7	*
467¼	392	Tate & Lyle†	399	...	4.5	9.2
238	145	Tesst	202	-2	2.5	16.5
434¼	317	Unigate†	391	+5	6.6	9.1
1247	958	Unilever†	1091	+15	2.9	15.7
8118¼	6495¼	Unilever (NV)	7065¼	+15¼	3.0	14.4
388	283¼	Utd Biscuits†	315	+2	6.1	25.7
49	33	Wadi Trnst	36	...	8.8	24.9
133	99	Yorkshire Food	104	...	3.9	12.3

HEALTHCARE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
544	325	AAH†	339	...	6.6	11.9
1141	862	Amersham†	862	-1	2.3	18.1
61	43	Anagen	51	...	...	...
297¼	208	Assoc Nursg	208	-2	1.4	12.1
360	243	Bespak	274	...	4.7	14.1
10	5	Care UK	5½	...	...	...
115	60	Caloo	74	...	...	...
151	88	Chiroscience	92	...	...	...
47	38	Cortecs	38	-9	...	...
297	232	Community H	244	...	4.0	14.1
44	29	CrestaCare	29	-1	3.3	...
146	96	Environmed†	117	...	1.7	...
110	82	Ferraris Group†	85	...	3.3	...
171	134	Goldsborough	148	+4	2.0	*
19½	8¼	Greenacre	10	...	4.2	13.3
165	39	Intercare Gp	43	...	10.2	4.6
325	282	Isotron	282	...	2.1	...
171	107	Life Sciences	128	-1	4.0	12.7
152¼	74	Lon Intl	86	+1	...	...
80	42	Nectar-BNA	46	...	8.6	11.4
3	1¼	Premier Health	1¼	...	...	...
330	227	Quality Care	253	...	2.2	14.7
210	123	Scholl	125	...	6.4	12.0
383	275¼	Salon Health▼	313	-3	2.7	18.0
83	44	Shield Diag	56	...	...	...
159¼	136¼	Smith & Neph	149½	-½	4.2	18.6
21	6	Speciallyes	9	...	...	...
292	192	Tallgre	200	+2	1.3	17.4
313	245	UniChem▼	258	+1	3.3	13.9
400	294	West Hlthcare	340	...	1.7	*

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312	213	Airsprung	213	-8	2.8	13.2
193	116	BLP Group	151	-1	0.8	41.4
39	26	Bilston Btlsea	35	...	...	...
167	91	Cornell Plr 'A'	98	+1	7.3	21.9
285	178	Creighton Nat	178	...	5.4	12.5
165	133	Derby Group	150	...	2.6	*
168	113	Easheb	135	...	3.9	...
14	4¼	Linehart	4¼	...	5.3	...
231	166	Maybom	186	...	4.0	12.4
335	250	Ortflame	275	...	4.9	12.3
430	230	Osborne & Little†	386	-10	2.4	11.7
625	428	Paterson Zch	449	...	3.9	13.0
595	413	Paterson Zch 'A'	419	...	4.1	12.1
714¼	528	Reckitt Colm▼	556	+4	4.1	14.0
281	211	Relyon	248	...	2.7	45.3
378	194	Silentnight†	202	...	5.0	12.7
46	31¼	Stoddard†	32	...	6.2	12.1
330	209	Tomkinsons	209	-1	6.9	*
188	125	Victoria Carpet	140	...	4.0	7.5
114	97	Walker Greenbk	106	...	4.0	18.8
63	44	Wstord Wdgwd	58	...	...	45.2
155	155	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	2.4	31.2

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1493¾	937½	Alex & Alext	1306½	-12½	5.5	...
2043¼	1587¼	Am Gen	1737½	+25	4.3	...
112	84½	Angerstein	90	-2	1.7	74.2
88	47	Archer	57	...	2.2	...
185	85	Bradstock	90	...	7.7	10.3
550	370	Britannic	398	-1	4.1	...
117	88½	CLM Insce	88	...	1.8	...
701¼	481	Comm Union	495	-2	5.1	18.7
108	66	Delian	97	-1	0.6	...
1950	1650	Dom & Gen	1655	...	2.1	17.7
84	31	FAI	33	...	1.5	...
221½	145	FBD E	162½	...	4.2	7.6
194	140	Fenchurch Grp	160	...	6.5	*
114	89	Fosbury Under	98	-1½	1.7	63.2
757	491	Gen Accident†	494	+3	7.1	8.0
247	161	GRE†	171	+5	5.7	19.1
105	80	HCG Lloyds	92	-1	1.8	77.5
457	211	Heath C E†	242	+1	8.3	...
245½	186	Hibernian E	187	...	5.2	7.0
114	88	Hiscox Select	107	...	1.8	...
323	238½	Independent	251	+4	4.4	6.8
241	178	Irish Life	183	+1	6.4	17.1
203	118	JIB Group	120	...	7.8	11.9
547	407	Legal & Gen	425	-1	6.0	16.9
1471¼	965¼	Liberty Lact	1440¼	+3¼	7.3	5.5
119	91	London Ins Mkt	99½	...	2.5	34.7
310	157	Lloyd Thomp	162	-2	6.0	10.7
471	313	Lloyds Abbey	313	...	7.4	9.5
185	159	Lombard Ins	178	...	5.5	16.8
443	282	Londn & Man	284	+2	7.1	14.1
119	91	London Ins Mkt	99½	...	2.5	34.7
236	156	London Utd	6	...	5.8	10.4
5893¼	4531¼	Marsh McLn	4793½	-31¼	3.9	...
110	84	Masthead	96	-1	...	...
188	147	Nelson Hurst	175	...	4.0	17.5
108	76	New London Cap	87	...	0.7	...
129¼	102	Oriel	102	-1	6.1	...
89	76½	Premium Trust	78	...	3.2	...
124	101½	Premium Under	111	-1	...	...
385	271	Prudential	306	+1½	5.6	13.2
37	21	PWS	36	+1	10.4	...
404	241	Refuge	242	...	6.0	17.8
350	232½	Royal	278	...	4.0	5.8
222	139	Sedgwick	150	+1	5.0	17.0
155	104	Steel Burrill	120	...	9.4	...
87	54	Stenge Hldgs	73	-3	5.3	...
418	285	Sun Alliance	292	...	6.4	8.1
107	81	Syndicate Cap	89	...	1.8	70.9
96	51	Trade Indemnity	80	...	1.9	13.4
464	332	Transatlantic	337	...	4.3	30.5
673	432	Utd Friendly	432	...	4.8	22.2
245	130	Willis Corroon†	134	-2	6.2	15.8
28	20	Windsor	23	...	2.8	...

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
336	280	3i	332	...	2.8	*
106½	79¼	Abtrust Emerg	81	...	0.3	...
102	82	Abtrust High Inc	82	...	8.7	...
290	205	Abtrust N Dawn	212½	+1½	0.5	...
2058	1678	Alliance	1683	+5	3.5	...
293	247	American Trust	249	+2	2.7	...
479	401	Anglo & O'seas	407	-1	2.2	...
186	141	Baillie Gifford SN	145	...	...	...
219	173	Bankers	176	...	2.8	...
75¼	43¼	Baring Em Eu	45¼	...	0.3	...
361	311	Baring Tribune	312	...	2.6	...
249	198	Berry Starq	222	...	1.2	*
215	155	Biotec Inv	156	+1	...	...
120¼	88½	Br Assets†	87	+¼	6.2	...
98	69	Br Empire Sect	68½	...	1.5	...
46	31	Br Empire Wts	32	...	...	...
234	188	Br Inv†	199	...	3.1	...
105¼	83¼	Brazilian	105	...	0.3	...
272	221	Brunner	226	-2	3.0	...
161	117	BZW Conv	132	-¼	7.5	...
363	319	Candover	333	...	4.2	...
85	50	Capital Euro Gwth	51	-1	...	...
271	168	China & Eastern	163	...	2.7	...
223	186	Cont Assets	186	...	2.0	...
95	80	Dartmoor Inv Inc	80	...	12.4	...
328	268	Derby Cap	280	...	...	...
173	147	Derby Inc	160	...	12.3	...
100	70	Drayton Blast	70	...	15.0	...
111	84	Drytn Eng Intl	92	...	1.1	...
136	128	Drytn Far East	136½	+¼	0.6	...
784	613	Dundee Inc &	623	+1	5.3	...
108	85	Dunedin Japan	88¼	...	...	...
341	292	Dundee Smlr	301	+1	3.8	...
80	35	Dundee Wts	36½	...	...	...
827	725	Dundee Wlde	732	+1	1.6	...
122	92¼	Edin Dragon	100½	-¼	...	...
53¼	42¼	Edinburgh Incst	48¼	...	0.1	...
360	281	Edinburgh	293	+1	3.8	...
178	139	EFM Japan	157	...	...	...
354	288	Electra Inv	317	...	2.8	...
220	185	Electric Gen	190	...	2.1	...
201	169	Eng & Caledon	181	...	3.8	...
137	106	English Scot	108	...	...	...
345	273	European Asset	275	...	2.1	...
174	145	Fidity Euro Val	152	...	0.2	...
103¼	79	Fidity Jap Val	78½	...	...	...
172	146	Finsbury 'A'†	155	...	2.4	...
86	69	First Spanish	70	+1	0.4	...
343	274	Fleming Amer	279	+2½	0.5	...
145	88	Fleming Chinese†	71½	+2	0.9	...
32	26	Fleming Ch Wts	28¼	+	...	...
267	186	Fleming Claver	189	+2	3.5	...
385	300	Fleming Cont	301	...	0.9	...
210¼	158	Fleming Em Mkts	164	-¼	...	...
364	180	Fleming Entp	202	...	3.0	...
459	327	Fleming F East	327	...	0.6	...
422	350	Fleming Fledg	352	...	1.1	...
120	89	Fleming Hi Inct	96	+1½	5.8	...
109	89¼	Fleming Indian	88½	-½	0.6	...
64	42	Fleming In Wts	44	-1	...	...
52½	35	Fleming Ind	35	...	12.7	...
294	223	Fleming Japan	246	-1	...	...
347	289¼	Fleming Merct	274	+1	3.1	...
347¼	280¼	Flem Overs	284	+2	1.9	...
155¼	128½	Fleming & Cul	131	+1½	1.7	...
106	93	For & Col Inc Gwth†	96	...	1.8	...
148	106¼	Frgn Emg Mkts	127	-1	...	...
77	64¼	Frgn Enterprise	69½	...	1.1	...
261	218	Frgn Eurotst	219	...	0.7	...
145	114	Frgn German	116	+1	0.5	...
374	295	Frgn Pacific	300	+1½	1.1	...
144	116	Frgn PEP†	122	...	3.6	...
192	159¼	Frgn Smaller	160½	...	1.5	...
120	91	Frgn US Smlr	94	...	...	...
36	21¼	Fulcrum Cap	23¼	...	...	...
54	46	Fulcrum Inct	46	...	23.5	...
142¼	134¼	Fulcrum Zero	139	-¼	...	...
213	180	Gartmore Brit	190	...	4.8	...
151	124	Gartmore Eurot	125	...	0.9	...
130	85	Gartmore Smrt	85	...	14.5	...
247	301	G'more Smlr Cos	304	...	3.5	...
128	99	Geared Inc Inv	99	-1	10.5	...
300	148	Genl Cons Cap	148	...	...	...
115¼	104	Genl Inct	105	...	10.4	...
106	88	German Inv	88	...	0.1	...
335	214	Gov Asset Sm Co's	230	...	0.1	...
151	127	Gov Emg Mkts	116	...	0.3	...
191	138	Govett Am Smlr	140	...	...	...
98½	80	Gov Glob Smlr	84	...	...	...
112	78	Govett High Inct	82	...	7.0	...
429	349	Govett Oriental†	373	...	0.4	...
348	231	Govett Strategict	236	-1	3.6	...
475	407	Greenfriar	407	...	2.1	...
19	19	Gresham House	19	...	...	...
303	227	GT Japan	233	...	0.7	...
155	119	H Govett Smlr Co	121	...	1.7	...
138	113	Hend High	117	...	6.1	...
283	257	Hend Strate	277	+¼	0.2	...
105	86	Herald	91	...	...	...
118	89¼	HTR Jap Smaller	102	...	0.6	...
27	13	I&S Ent	15	+¼	...	...
119	94	I&S UK Smlrt	99	...	3.5	...
159	117	Inv Capt	118	...	5.5	...
97	87	Ind Biotech	87	...	...	...
50	30	Inv Wts	32	...	...	...
177	126	INVESCO Korea	150	...	...	...
122	88¼	J Fry 2nd Ut	90	...	8.9	...
100	94	J Fry Euro U	94	...	6.4	...
255	187	JF Fledg Jap	220	...	...	...
121	103	Jupiter Intl Grn	103	-1	4.1	...
243	195	Kleinwt Chrt	199	+1	3.2	...
149	115	Kleinwt E Mkt	123	...	...	...
124	105	Kleinwt End	110	-1	...	...
88½	73½	Klnwt Euro Prvt	73½	-½	1.4	*
49	23¼	Klnwt Euro Wts	24	...	...	...
116	79	Klnwt H Inct	79	...	12.1	...
272½	224	Klnwt O'seas	225	+1	1.9	...
165	125	Klnwt Smlr	125	...	3.1	...
201	129¼	Latin American	147¼	+¼	...	...
826	672	Law Debenture	727	-2	3.4	...
128	93	Lazard H Inct	93	-1	8.6	...
97	79	Lloyds Sm Cap	81	...	...	...
35	28	Lloyds Sm Dw	29¼	...	15.6	*
129	107	Lloyds Sm Ptg	109	...	4.1	*
174	141	Lon St Lawrence	157	...	5.0	...
108	81	Lon Smaller Co's	84	...	4.7	...
334	265	Lowland†	285	...	4.1	...
1440¼	887¼	Lydenburg	1387½	...	1.7	...
520	495	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	520	...	...	...
151	127	M&G 2nd Dual Inc	135	...	22.2	...
2773	2440	M&G Dual Cap	2585	...	...	...
353	285	M&G Dual Inc	290	+2	30.3	...
77	54	M&G Inc Gearedt	65	...	9.4	...
34½	26½	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cap	27½	...	...	...
45	36	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inct	36½	+½	15.8	...
137	117	M&G Inc Packaget	119	...	5.2	...
59	50	M&G Inc Zero Div	54½	+¼	...	...
39½	27¼	M&G Rec Cap	30	...	...	...
72½	61	M&G Rec Geared	61½	...	7.9	...
37½	30½	M&G Rec Inc	30½	...	15.9	...
151	128	M&G Rec Packge	130	...	3.7	...
80½	68	M&G Rec Zero Div	73¼	...	...	...
128	99	M Currie Euro	103	...	0.4	*
180	133	M Currie Pac	134	-1	0.3	*
227	180	Majedie†	192	...	3.4	...
57	44	Monkeln	55	...	...	...
125	93	Merc Wld Mg	93	-¼	...	...
324	237	Merchants	257	-3	5.4	...
90	79½	Mercury Euro Pvt	80½	...	0.9	...
45	27¼	Mercury Wts	27½	...	...	...
52½	29	Mercury Wld Wts	29	-½	...	...
595	492	Monks Inv Tst	505	+1	1.7	...
156	128	Morg Gren Inct	128	...	4.7	...
64	39	Morg Wts	39	...	...	...
111	87	Morg Latin Amer	98	...	...	...
65	33	Morg Wts	57	...	...	...
148	109	Murray Entrp	114	...	2.3	...
88	54	Murray Euro	57½	...	0.6	...
393	317	Murray Incmet	319	+1	4.6	...
395	319	Murray Intl	324	+1	4.9	...
162	153	Murray S/C DP	161½	+½	...	...
174	128	Murray S/C Cap	128	-1	...	...
97	78	Murray S/C Inct	78	-1	17.0	...
3400	2850	Murray S/C Uet	3050	...	4.3	...
548	424	Murray Smllt	480	-2	1.2	...
363	302½	Murray Vent	306	+1	4.7	...
58	31	Murray Ent Wts	32	...	...	...
23½	16	Murray Eu Wts	16¼	...	...	...
58	15	Newmarkes	16	...	...	...
95	56	Nthrop Inc	56	...	8.7	...
104	85	Nthrop Cap	89	-1	...	...
404	333	O'seas Inv Tst†	341	-1	1.2	...
241	176	O'seas Wts	197	...	...	...
640½	433	Pacific Assets	461	...	0.3	...
542	335	Pacific Wts	366	-2	...	...
120	89	Perpetual Jap	91½	...	...	...
9400	7900	Personal Assets	8700	...	2.8	...
153	124	Pilot Invt	125	...	1.6	...
96	88	Piper Euro Sm	88	...	...	...
189	164½	RIT Cap Ptnr	171	...	1.1	...
38	27	River Merc Am Cap	27	...	...	...
121	101	River Merc Am Inct	101	...	9.7	...
17	11	River Merc Am Wts	11	...	...	...
150	114	River Merc Cap	116	...	...	...
147	86	River Merc Ex Inc	86	...	11.3	...
49	14	River Merc Ex IncWt	15	...	...	...
116	82	River Merc Gel Inct	83	...	11.3	...
35	23	River Merc Grd Ptl	25	...	...	...
127	110	River Merc Tst Inct	110	...	10.5	...
40	22	River Merc Wt	23	...	...	...
170	118	River Merc Sm Co	126	...	4.1	...
77	31	River Merc Sm Wt	32	...	...	...
449	405	Robeco	409	...	3.1	...
463	415	Rolinco	417	...	1.9	...
99	82	Schrod Jap Gwth	83½	...	...	...
52	36½	Schrod Jap Grth Wt	36	...	...	...
1112¼	761¼	Schrod Korea Fd	880¼	+1	0.1	...
850¼	411	Sch Korea Fd Wt	454	+¼	...	...
113½	103	Sch Spl Zero Div	108¼	...	...	...
37	27½	Sch Split Fd Cap	29½	...	...	...
129	108	Sch Split Fd Inct	111	+¼	8.4	...
99	85	Schrod UK Gwth	92	...	2.1	...
42	31	Schrod UK Gwth Wt	31	...	...	...
262½	207	Scot	208	+1	3.1	...
183	148	Scot Americant	149½	+½	4.0	...
368	238	Scot Asian	258	...	...	...
1070	683	Scot Wts	685	...	...	...
97½	77	Scot Eastern	79¼	+¼	2.5	...
264½	205	Scot Mtge	212½	+½	2.4	...
108½	90	Scot Natl Tst	90	...	10.4	...
133½	104	Scot Valuet	104½	...	2.4	...
1795	1475	Second Allnce	1477	-3	3.6	...
108	77½	Secs Tst of Scot†	80½	...	5.0	...
179	143	Selective Asset	143	...	1.3	...
161	138	SHIRESCOT†	131	...	5.2	...
51½	33½	Sphere Inv	34	...	14.2	...
343	290	St Andrew Inv	303	...	3.3	...
412	310	Temple Bar	337	-1½	5.1	...
135	99	Thmpn Asian E	100	+1	0.6	...
568	468	Throg Dual Cp	480	...	...	...
101	70¼	Throgmorton	71	+¼	4.0	...
164½	116	Tpilon Emg Mkt	121	...	0.7	...
177½	133½	TR City Of Lon	142	-½	4.6	...
205	142	TR Far East†	142	-½	5.1	...
124½	86	TR Pacific	108	+1	0.2	...
43½	31½	TR Property▼	31¼	...	3.5	...
228	179	TR Smlr Cos	181½	...	2.6	...
152	102½	TR Tech Inv	103	...	2.1	...
405	190	Turkey Trust	212	...	1.2	...
268	232	USDC Invest	232	...	2.4	...
129	108½	Value Inc Tst†	114	-½	4.6	...
109	64	Wigmore†	64	-2	1.8	...
257½	205	Witan	223½	+½	3.2	...
113	100	Yeoman Invt	100	...	17.1	...

LEISURE & HOTELS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
131	81	1st Choice	118	...	3.7	...
40	26	Abdn Str H	30	...	...	...
578¼	416	Airtours	435	...	3.5	10.5
49¼	18	Ald Leis	18	...	...	...
177	135	Alpha Airpts	142	...	3.5	...
48	36	Arcadian	40	...	...	...
131	85	Baldwin	115	...	3.6	19.8
333	234	Barr & W 'A'	238	...	5.3	9.9
250	135¼	Bluebird Toys	219	...	3.4	6.5
365	231	Boosey Hwks	336	-2	1.9	19.9
7¼	2¼	Brent Walker	3	...	...	...
200	100	Brent Scotts	183	...	2.0	...
7¼	1¼	Buckingham Int	2	...	...	...
247	114	Chrysalis	245	...	1.7	36.2
94	74	City Centre Rest	79	...	2.8	16.0
374	305	Compass Gp	317	-3	2.7	*
290	232	Eurocamp	240	...	5.2	9.9
213	78	Euro Disney	105	...	...	...
4	2	Euro Leisure	2¼	...	...	...
455	308	Fairline Boats	440	+6	4.5	...
350	245	First Leisure	263	...	3.2	17.5
285	269½	Forte	226	+½	4.1	28.7
207	169	Friendly Hotels†	175	...	4.1	29.3
79	49	GR Hldgs†	55	...	2.5	...
598	475	Granada	498	-8	2.6	15.9
96	34	Hi-Tec Sports†	37	...	9.4	5.4
216	176	Hornby	177	...	6.4	15.5
173¼	142½	Jarvis Hotel	157½	...	4.4	14.1
18¼	11¼	Kunick	13¼	...	...	...
284	200	London Clubst	274	+1	5.4	13.9
217½	145	Ladbroke	151	-1	2.9	36.6
104	64	Magnolia	65	...	0.2	...
140½	107½	Man Utd†	128	+5	4.1	*
109¼	68	Mandarin Orntl	68¼	...	4.7	17.8
15	11¼	My Kinda Town	11¼	...	...	...
67	34	Northern	65	-1	5.8	10.8
102	65½	Pelican Gp	82	-1	1.9	17.1
141	109	PizzaExpress	117	...	2.1	18.0
183	111	Prism Leisure	111	...	4.7	7.8
43	21	Quadrant Grp	23	...	...	...
278	205	Ransdens (H)	250	-2	2.2	37.6
447¼	355½	Rank Org	410	-6	3.8	26.3
31½	18½	Ryan Hotels (E)	26	...	5.0	14.8
1135	790	Savoy Hotel 'A'	920	...	0.5	...
92	60¼	Saids	84½	-½	1.8	30.4
350	256½	Stanley Leisure	334	...	2.0	18.8
345¼	280	Tanjong	280	...	0.7	15.7
1165	959	Thorn EMI	988	-3	4.4	18.7
167	75	Tottenhm Hot	160	-2	0.8	42.9
167	129	VCI	167	...	1.8	14.4
149	112	Vardon	130	+1	1.1	23.0
18	5	Wembley	5	...	...	...
149	110	Zetters Gp	135	...	7.9	...

MEDIA

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
385	270	Abbott Mead	337	...	2.2	30.5
356	198	Adscene	294	...	2.8	21.0
33	17½	Anglia Gp	26	-½	...	...
11½	5½	Allied Radio	5¼	...	...	...
28	13	BBB Design	13	-1	...	8.7
235	170	Barbour Index	170	...	6.2	14.7
13½	5½	Birkdale	6	...	...	...
345	320	Black (A&C)	320	...	5.3	11.6
402	213	Blenheim Grt	245	...	5.3	9.2
305	133	Border TV	181	+1	3.0	15.0
413	385	Bristol†	370	...	4.2	37.6
369¼	258	B Sky B	258½	+2	...	...
169	117½	CIA Gp	132	...	1.6	21.4
439	325½	Capital Radio†	335	+3	2.7	*
1047	797	Carlton Comms	838	-3	3.1	15.9
99	76	City of Lon†	80	...	6.2	13.6
1650	1100	Daily Mail	1359	...	1.4	31.6
1494¼	866¼	Daily Mail 'A'	981¼	-8¼	1.9	22.9
314	280	Dartleng Kind†	299	...	1.4	32.0
469	355	EMAP†	376	...	3.6	20.6
692¼	588	Elsevier	627	+8	3.1	20.4
1975	1450	Euromoney Pbt	1618	...	3.3	...
17½	8	Flicks	11½	...	...	...
495	309	Flextech	470	...	...	...
1038	675	GWR Gp	876	...	1.6	31.7
276	183	Gold Greenlese	153	...	4.1	19.7
34	22½	Goodhead	28	...	...	...
398	228	Grampian†	326	-3	3.1	17.4
172	105	HTV Group	131	-1	1.7	28.3
194	32	Harrington K	34	...	3.7	...
515	288	Haynes Pub	290	...	3.9	17.2
408	328	Hodder H'line	335	...	2.0	54.5
180	120	Home Counts	162	...	3.9	39.7
340	273	Independent	273	...	2.8	9.3
237	161	Intl Bus Comm	224	...	2.0	10.9
182	119	Interreurope	131	...	7.4	...
167½	137½	Johnston Press	148	...	1.6	20.6
33½	20½	Leber	21	...	1.5	23.7
110	43	MAID	54	+1	...	...
505	338	Mecd BelDdt	504	...	2.8	26.2
177½	108	Midland Ind	113	...	3.1	15.5
203	123	Mirror Gp	131	...	1.0	6.9
431	344	More O'Ferrall	359	...	4.6	20.7
349	242¼	News Corp	247	-1	6.6	15.1
314	217	News Intl	217	-3	0.8	11.5
60	27	Osprey Comms	27	...	0.5	...
735	552	Pearson	585	-5	2.9	18.6
440	287	Phonelink	290	+4	...	...
760	605	Portsmth Sund†	605	...	2.3	12.5
338	250	Quarto	250	-1	3.0	13.6
964	722	Reed Intl	738	-2	3.2	22.9
639¼	424	Reuters	459	+4	1.9	33.0
178	127	Saatchi	155	...	...	30.2
628	395	Scot Radio	568	...	2.3	22.2
574	355	Scot TV	421	-3	3.7	28.3
40½	20½	SelectTV	23½	...	...	...
57	20½	Shandwick	43	...	1.2	6.5
252	187	Southnews†	240	...	1.7	24.1
200	110	Sterling Pub	110	...	4.2	10.3
153	117	Sunset & Vine	124	...	4.0	10.8
46½	25½	Taylor Nelson†	35	...	2.2	21.1
622	310	Telegraph	345	...	4.7	12.2
865	695	Thomson Corpt	715	...	5.3	35.7
472	367	Trinity Intl	368	...	3.4	17.0
760	516	Ulster TV	676	-5	2.0	20.8
731	479	Utd Nwspapers	490	-2	5.8	11.8
161	108	VTR†	108	...	4.6	11.8
36½	18½	WMSD	19	...	8.8	9.0
129	63½	WPP	110	-2	1.2	15.8
400	150	Yorkshire TV	383	-1	...	...

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
115	85	Aler Corp	95	...	3.6	8.5
3693¼	1762½	Ang Am Coal†	3693¼	...	2.6	10.4
3798½	2509½	Ang Am	3440½	+68¼	2.1	31.2
7331¼	4593¼	Ang Am Gold†	6081¼	+77¼	4.5	15.9
36	25	Anglo Pac Res	26½	-¼	...	...
1512½	1156½	Ashanti	1312½	+9¼	...	...
165	117	Ashton	117	-1	4.7	...
988	773½	Broken Hill	913	-23	2.4	35.2
494	230	Bulgrchik	252	...	...	...
481	294½	Bushvr	388	+½	4.8	21.7
39	34	Bischi	35	...	2.4	30.2
184	90¼	Blyvoors	102½	...	...	...
64	30	Bougainville	39	...	...	...
37	12¼	Bracken	18	...	5.0	...
859	513	Buffels	560	+8¼	9.8	...
6	2½	Burs	3	+	...	...
968	745½	CRA	849	-11	2.6	25.3
77	42	Central Pacific	44	+2	...	...
55½	38	Cliff Res	41½	...	...	...
145	28¼	Coal Inv	76	...	...	...
300	65	Cons Murchison	198	-4	3.2	...
1750	1318¼	De Beers	1400	...	3.8	14.7
148	88	Deelkraal	101½	...	3.5	8.8
101¼	50¼	Doornfontein	57¼	-3¼	...	...
1036½	665¼	Driefontein	898¼	+5	4.8	13.0
941¼	527¼	Durban Deep	572	-3¼	...	...
203¼	197	E Rand Gold†	146½	+¼	14.1	4.7
122½	59¼	E Rand Prop	76	...	...	...
75	48	Eastern Trans	70	...	3.3	18.7
513	300½	Elandsrand	398	+½	4.1	9.1
447¼	320	Eng China Cl	333	-4	6.3	15.6
1239	741¼	FS Const	878¼	+1	6.7	10.7
82	27	FS Dev	60	...	2.1	...
2025	1193¼	GFSA	1862½	...	2.0	27.4
82¼	47	GM Kalgoorli	47	-2	3.2	15.6
239½	132½	Gencor	217½	+3½	7.3	28.2
113	75	Gold Fields Prop▼	118	...	7.9	*
22	14	Greenwch R 'A'	16¼	-½	...	...
282	165½	Grootvlei	148½	+5¼	6.5	7.7
36¼	67	Gwebu Cons	88¼	+¼	1.1	10.2
857½	313½	Harmony	494½	+3¼	...	...
432	255½	Hartebeest	260½	-¼	9.5	8.7
1535½	831¼	Impala Plat	1496½	+3¼	1.7	45.8
230	119	[illegible]	120	-2	10.0	10.8
1315¾	690¼	[illegible]	1056¼	...	4.6	14.5
1294¼	585¼	Kloof	862¼	+1	3.5	8.9
137	69¼	Leslie	99¼	...	10.9	5.8
352½	176¼	Libanon	262½	-3	...	...
52	17	[illegible]	30	...	...	...
7	2½	[illegible]	3	...	...	...
182	117	MIM	111	-4	2.2	...
1752½	1462¼	Minorco	1475	...	2.5	*
224	155	[illegible]	165	-2	...	...
222½	83	NSM	96	...	...	9.0
221¼	145½	Nth Broken Hill	159	...	3.4	22.4
94	45	Oryx Gold	50	...	...	...
101	65	Palabora	73	+2	...	...
463	250	Pahang Tin	256	+5	0.5	...
199	122¼	Placer Pac	155	-6	...	...
435	317	[illegible]	#348	...	4.4	16.8
905	730	RTZ	810	-1	3.2	23.1
49	37	Redwood	32	...	...	...
650	187½	Rand Mnrst	650	...	1.7	*
840¼	547½	Randfontein	612	-3¼	8.2	7.6
295	227	Renison	232	-3	...	...
1539¼	1078¼	Rustenburg	1635	+3¼	1.8	*
112	66	St Barbara	69	+3	...	...
756	523¼	St Helena	616	+½	8.6	*
280	135	Sons Gwalia	220	-2	5.6	13.6
30	16	Sthern Pacific	19	-1	...	...
2387½	1484¼	Southvaal	1768¼	-46¼	4.9	20.3
5	¼	Stamon	1	...	...	...
143	73	Stilfontein	75	...	28.8	2.5
261¼	90	Unisel	168¼	+¼	3.6	12.8
7600	4943¼	Vaal Reefs	5281¼	-25	4.9	8.6
23	7½	Wankie Col Z	14	...	8.8	3.3
545	450	Wits State	533	...	2.9	20.1
1213½	508¼	Western Areas	880¼	-23	8.2	8.2
3575	2050	Western Deep	2471¼	-43¼	4.2	8.5
398	300¼	Western Ming	356	-9	1.1	52.8
1225	603¼	Winkels	800	-15¼	6.0	11.1
56	47	Zambia Copper	50	...	...	...
68	48	Zandpan	48	-8	9.3	10.7

OIL & GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
41½	24½	Aran Energy	41½	+½	...	25.1
53	35	Arcon Intl	40	...	...	...
74¼	51¼	Aus Oil & Gas	56	+¼	...	...
68	43	Awna Pet	54	-1	...	...
249	197	Br Borneo	224	-1	4.0	10.5
358	253	British Gas†	298½	-3	6.1	...
437½	340	Br Petroleum†	403½	+2	3.0	22.1
4	1¼	Bula Resources	2½	...	...	...
919	799	Burmah Castrl†	799	-9	4.3	15.9
88	58	Cairn Energy	62	...	...	45.2
375	258	Calor Grp	273	-1	5.7	73.2
51	33	Clyde Pet	38	-1	1.2	...
30	9¼	Coplex Res	11½	...	...	...
2½	1½	Dragon Oil	2¼	-¼	...	...
27½	17	Edin Oil & Gs	22	...	...	23.7
486	370	Enterprise	378	+2	5.3	...
26¼	21	Fairhaven Intl	25	...	4.9	10.2
303	263	Flogas†	280	...	5.8	11.6
8¼	4¼	Fortune	5¼	...	...	33.5
77	54	Goal Pet	63	-1	2.9	20.8
47	31	Gt Western Res	41	...	...	...
177	137	Hardy O & G	137	-2	0.9	17.5
55	40	Kelt Energy	49½	...	3.4	23.7
189	110½	Lasmo	137	-4	0.9	...
73	46	Lasmo Units	52	...	18.8	...
75	35	Monument	65½	...	...	70.0
7½	3¼	New London	7¼	...	...	...
2540¼	1912½	Norsk Hydro	2375	-9¼	1.4	*
9½	3¼	Oceanics	5	...	...	...
50	36	Oil Search	44	+1	...	...
50½	17½	Petroz	37½	...	...	...
168	140	Pict Pet	141	...	...	...
32½	21	Premier	21½	-½	...	11.5
158	43	Presidio	43	...	15.5	...
111	83	Pittencrieff	83	...	...	...
282	128	Ramco Egy	219	...	0.3	...
460	325	Ranger	380	+5	5.3	...
7700	6681¼	Royal Dtch Pl	6868¼	+62¼	4.7	17.9
4084¼	3321¼	Schlumberger	3328½	+3¼	2.3	...
68	43	Scott Pickfd	48	...	2.3	9.2
90	50	Seafield	68	-1	...	...
798	651	Shell	687½	+5½	4.5	20.8
167	116	Sunrise Eng Sv	#116	...	...	...
4237½	3481¼	Total	3762½	-21¼	4.7	...
19	9¼	Wiles Grp	9½	...	...	...
237	178¼	Woodside	229	...	1.7	...
110	28	XCL	51	-4	...	...

OTHER FINANCIAL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	BWD	78	...	6.9	6.2
126	98	Baltic Plc	124	...	2.0	7.8
185	80	Barry Bch Hol	80	...	8.8	12.1
154	109	Brewin Dolphin	113	...	6.4	8.3
797	623	Caledonia†	824	-4	3.3	17.1
3550	1900	Camellia	2200	...	1.8	5.9
28½	19¼	Carlisle	20	-¼	1.6	...
630¼	449	Cater Allen†	473	-1	7.5	9.8
174¼	125	Cattles	145	+2	4.5	16.4
85	38	Christie	38	...	...	...
80	66	Clayhithe	73	...	4.6	*
15	12	EFG	14	...	0.9	9.1
71½	49½	EFT Group	59	...	3.7	12.4
740	613	EFM	727	-2	4.7	21.8
212	162	Exco	169	-1	6.5	4.5
229	157	Gartmore	179	...	2.8	20.7
515	385	Gerrard Natl	496	...	6.1	14.1
485	333	Govett	338	+1	5.5	5.5
1208	845	Henderson Adt	1015	...	6.5	14.1
231½	151	Invesco	167	...	2.8	27.4
50	37	Investment Co.†	42	...	5.2	13.4
250	185	Ivory Sime	231	...	4.1	16.0
317	193½	Jardine Strat	210½	+2	4.0	8.4
428	103	Johnson Fry	110	...	1.7	...
170	106	King Sturge	108	-1	10.8	10.3
245	138	Lon Forfaiting	150	...	7.3	10.0
119	95	Lon Scot Bk	112	...	4.0	17.0
1243	794	M & G	937	-1	3.7	19.6
328	218	MAI	226	-5	4.3	12.2
117½	85½	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	88½	-1	...	...
770	538	MAM†	718	-32	4.0	16.7
25¼	8½	Nat Home Loan	15¼	...	...	...
1285	970	Perpetual†	1063	...	4.1	11.5
573	415	Provident	523	...	4.2	16.6
365	247	Rathbone Bro	248	...	4.3	12.3
28	21¼	Rutland Tst	26½	...	4.2	13.4
369	287¼	S & U	302	...	4.5	9.8
425	186	Shandsfield	186	-3	6.8	8.2
188	108	SJP Capital†	109	+1	3.4	7.7
496	324	Smith New Crt	438	-8	2.9	3.6
604	353	Swire Pacific 'A'	387	+5½	2.6	...
324	76	Towry Law	78	...	7.2	8.7
85	23	Trio Hldgs	24	...	0.5	10.9
192	87	Union	92	...	6.1	8.5
31	20	Western Selectn	25	...	1.2	...

PHARMACEUTICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311½	Brit Biotech	558	-10	...	...
488	355	Cantab Pharms	385	...	...	...
243	161	Celltech	236	...	...	...
151	66	Chiroscience	82	...	...	...
47	38	Cortecs	38	-9	...	...
157	107	Fisons†	113	+3	3.0	...
725	520	Glaxo	625	+1	5.4	15.1
166	65½	Grampian Hdg	99	...	6.9	18.3
187	120	Medeva	165	-1	2.2	13.3
3	1¼	Proteus Health	1½	...	...	...
330	227	Quality Care	253	...	2.2	14.7
295	242	Scotia	253	...	...	...
63	44	Shield Diag	56	...	...	...
485½	357½	SmithKline†	434½	+11	3.5	16.9
421	322	SmithKline Unit	404	+11	3.8	15.7
731	498	Wellcome	698	+3	3.3	14.9
873	672	Zeneca	840	+2	4.1	16.9

PRINTING & PAPER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184	122	AG Holdings†	123	...	5.9	11.6
444	335	API	349	+10	3.3	*
316	237	Arjo Wiggins	246½	-4½	3.3	37.1
205	145	Aspen Comm	165	...	3.8	18.8
472	347	Bemrose	369	...	4.2	13.2
171	97	Blagden	103	...	1.8	48.2
524	469	Bowater	414	-3	3.8	15.5
1865¼	1378¼	Bowater Inct	1619¼	+25	...	...
297	243	Boxmore Intl	243	-1	2.1	14.8
515	435	Br Polythene	480	-4	3.1	17.2
176	35	Br Thornton	40	+4	16.8	3.5
180¼	122	Britton Grp	122	...	2.6	18.0
186	139	Bunzl†	167	...	3.1	19.6
198	129	Capital Inds	144	-3	3.9	11.3
2449¼	1990¼	Carnaud Mtl	2171½	-37½	2.2	17.0
438	282	Cropper (James)†	282	...	1.6	14.8
1035	825	De La Rue†	924	-5	2.6	16.8
114	78	Delyn Group	80	...	2.8	14.5
137	103	Dolphin Pack	103	...	5.5	13.2
181	75	Fairway Group	93	...	4.6	17.4
430	302	Ferguson Intl	303	-1	5.3	12.2
145	120	Ferry Pick	121	...	5.8	...
30	1¼	Headlight	2	...	...	...
230	150	Inveresk	158	...	4.0	9.5
288	248	Jarvis Porter▼	280	...	2.4	18.3
438	364	Low & Bonar	382	-1	3.3	15.8
70	45	MY Holdings†	54	...	3.7	12.7
271	223	Macfarlane	257	-1	2.0	20.7
250	162	Pyeo	162	...	5.4	23.2
893	513	Portals†	874	...	2.4	23.7
412	314	St Ives Gp	318	...	2.5	17.2
1124	464¼	Sappi	1054¼	+28¼	0.5	...
30¼	9¼	Seil	9½	...	...	...
351½	185	Sidlaw	191	...	7.2	...
573	398	Smith David	489	+1	3.1	*
420¼	274¼	Smurfit (Jeff)▼	353	+5	1.6	50.4
119	82	Somic	87	...	2.5	10.4
45	18½	Unit Group	34	...	...	...
270	182	Waco	223	-1	2.2	14.2
291	208	Waddington (J)†	217	...	5.0	10.6
511	385	Wiggins	414	...	2.1	26.2
149	98	Wyndeham†	138	-1	2.6	17.6

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
130	92	Allied Lon†	92	...	5.3	11.8
276	253	Argent	258	...	...	...
80	63	Arlington Ests	78	...	...	...
144	109	Asta	112	...	2.5	19.9
382½	238	Billton	239	...	5.1	17.4
283	211	Birkby†	211	...	4.0	15.5
39½	14	Bolton Gp	15	...	...	45.8
108	71	Bourne End†	71	...	1.3	...
276	175	Bradford†	175	-4	4.9	14.7
137	103	Brightstone	117	...	4.8	26.5
474	352	Br Land	360	-5	2.7	33.5
276	169	Brixton	189	-3	6.0	15.9
118	85½	Burford	87	-1	2.3	38.2
112	96	CLS Hldgs	98	-1	6.2	...
207½	125¼	Cap & Regnl	137	...	1.5	31.0
229	191	Cap Shop Ctrs	194	-6	4.2	48.7
325	203	Cardiff Prop	223	...	1.4	48.9
86	26	Cathay Intl	35	...	...	...
185	152	Chelsfield	153	...	2.0	31.9
678	413	Chesterfield†	416	...	3.7	18.7
112	90	Chesterton Int	90	...	4.6	12.7
84	36	City Site Ests	49	...	...	...
12¼	6½	Clarke Nickolls	7	...	1.8	14.6
87½	71½	Compco†	77½	...	6.3	...
56	29	Conrad Ritblat GS	29	...	2.2	25.4
1755	1225	Daejan	1228	...	3.0	14.3
25½	5	Dares Estates	10½	...	...	...
77	4	De Morgan	6	...	...	...
156	95	Denington Twsn	98	...	4.6	15.6
189	161	Dencora	163	...	2.5	45.8
347¼	240	Derwent Hldgs	240	...	2.4	21.4
41	17	Development Sec	17½	...	0.7	...
51	45	Dwyer	48	...	2.1	...
45	25	Eleco	31	...	...	...
460	275	Estates Agency†	325	...	4.9	...
47	18	Estates Gen	23½	...	...	...
132	98	Evans Of Leeds†	98	...	3.3	16.3
43½	23	Ex-Lands	23	...	2.3	...
80	64	Fiscal Prop	65	...	1.2	...
37	23¼	Five Oaks†	25	...	2.5	10.5
78	33	Fletcher King	33	...	5.8	16.1
51	38	Folkes Group	44	...	4.3	...
51	36	Folkes Group nv	41	...	4.6	23.3
538	407	Frogmore	423	-2	5.0	15.3
325	229	Grainger	236	-1	3.2	*
260	169	Gt Portland†	171	-1	6.0	29.2
226½	118	Greycoat	123	...	0.8	...
94	39	Hambro Cntys	39	...	0.8	39.6
435	298	Hammerson	304	-6	4.1	30.5
390	286	Helical Bar	317	...	2.4	11.4
40	28½	Ho'ingway	29	...	1.7	49.8
78	22	Harrow Baker	22	...	5.7	...
75	45	High-Point	45	...	1.4	...
289	127¼	HK Land	127¼	+2½	5.0	...
311¼	136½	Jermyn	154	...	...	77.1
792	543	Land Secs†	545	-2	5.6	15.8
18	8	Lon & Metro	8	...	...	0.3
122	86	Lon Merch Sec	91	...	5.8	13.4
562	354	MEPC†	354	-4	7.1	19.3
13½	6	McInerney A	8¼	...	...	...
190	164	McKay Secs	168	-3	3.9	16.6
85	55	Merivale Moore	58	...	4.5	9.0
55	37	Moorfield Est	30	...	4.2	...
1425	1125	Mountview	1125	...	2.5	8.7
196	144	Mucklow (A&J)†	147	-2	5.3	18.5
2¼	...	ORB	4½	-	...	...
64	29	Olives Prop	30	...	...	11.2
191	135½	PSIT	135½	...	4.3	19.2
399	216	Peel	218	...	2.6	41.4
162	138	Pillar Prop	139	-1	3.3	...
12½	3	Power Corp	3	...	...	...
9¼	4¼	Premier Land	5¼	...	...	...
77	56	RPS Group	70	...	4.6	12.6
53	31	Raglan	31	...	...	7.5
40	23½	Regalian	26½	...	...	6.5
180	140	Rowlinson Secs†	160	...	1.5	10.2
134	97	Rugby Est	98	...	2.9	...
64	45	St Modwen Prp	49	...	3.1	12.2
78	58	Savills Grde (J)	61	...	5.5	17.8
100	54	Savills	54	...	5.2	8.7
108	67	Scot Metr	67	-1	3.7	7.8
61	45	Second Retire	46	...	...	...
135	87	Shaftesbury†	87	-2	1.4	...
307	210	Slough Estates	210	-2	4.8	44.9
103	50	Southend Prop	50	-3	6.0	...
133	100	Specity Shops	100	...	3.0	...
50	10	Stanhope Prps	13	+1	...	...
39	34	TBF	37	...	...	1.7
244	164	Tops Ests	164	...	1.7	41.6
163	116	Town Centre	118	-1	4.0	17.5
107	82	Trafford Park	82	...	4.8	...
29½	15	Trencherwood	17½	...	...	...
58	28	UK Land	48	-2	...	...
317	212	Warner	214	...	6.5	20.6
260	218	Warnford	225	...	4.4	18.4
7½	1½	Waterglade	#2	...	...	...
103½	62	Wates	65	...	...	...
45	29	Whitney Mck	36	...	...	...
105	61	Wood John D	61	...	4.1	...
30	15	YRM	16	...	...	...

RETAILERS, FOOD

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
68	50¼	ASDA Group	63½	-1½	3.5	14.6
315	222½	Argyll†	240½	+3½	6.1	10.2
505	413	Bailie Brost	456	...	2.0	16.4
43	24	Budgens	25	...	5.0	15.9
17	11¼	Cullens	13½	...	...	...
137	86	Dairy Farm Intl	88¼	-½	5.5	9.1
384	344	Farepak	350	...	2.4	19.9
80	37	Fitzwilton	38	...	11.6	...
108	87	Fyffes	97	...	1.8	18.8
371	165	Geest†	168	...	6.0	...
1078	853	Greggs	1048	+15	2.3	19.7
395	325	Greenalls	382	+3	3.2	11.4
211	133	Iceland Group	138	-2	3.5	8.6
656	523	Kwik Savet	533	-5	4.5	9.6
18	9	Merchant Retail	11½	...	...	...
149	99	Morrison (W)	133	-1	1.0	15.5
232	163	Nurdin Peack	163	-1	5.1	9.0
146	89½	Park Foods	122	...	2.5	24.7
5¼	1½	Regina Hlth	1½	...	...	...
480	342	Sainsbury J†	381	+1½	3.5	13.8
280	200½	Tesco	238½	-	3.8	14.1
198	162	Thorntons	172	-2	3.6	14.1
422	279	Watson & Philip	361	...	5.1	14.6

RETAILERS, GENERAL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	25	Alexon	32	-1	...	...
245	189	Alldays	207	+3	4.1	*
410	307	Argos Plc	331	+3	3.1	17.4
102	54½	Ashley (Laura)	75	...	8.2	...
246	133	Asprey†	134	...	5.3	11.0
246	176	Austin Reed	211	...	3.6	10.8
138	132	Beattie (J) 'A'	133	...	5.8	17.4
150	110	Bentalls	120	...	2.1	41.6
165	36	Bentalmoor	44	...	8.0	4.2
48	29	Blacks Leisr	34	...	8.3	...
284	193	Boar Shopt	195	...	1.4	17.2
601	459½	Boots†	469½	+11	4.1	15.0
12½	1½	Brown & Jackson	2	...	...	...
253	206	Brown (N)†	206	...	2.6	18.3
74½	51	Burton	65½	+1	3.8	30.7
245	149	Carlton	150	...	3.4	...
504	220	Carpetright	229	-4	3.8	19.2
246	152	Cortalier Int	157	...	1.6	27.7
320	389	Church	480	...	3.4	34.4
171	95	Clinton Cards	95	...	4.3	13.8
170	81	Chy Cmsk	89	...	6.0	25.5
803	720	Courts Fumish	798	-2	8.9	40.5
219	155	Crown Eye	158	...	6.7	8.1
353	245	DFS Furniture†	260	-1	3.5	*
279	170	Dixons Grp	175½	-1	4.7	18.5
580	536	Dys (Wimbldn)	580	...	3.8	27.2
11½	7½	ERA Gp	9	...	...	...
284	158	Essex Furn	158	-1	3.4	*
326	217	Etam†	227	...	4.2	12.6
559	373	Fine Art Dev	373	-2	4.9	11.4
68	46	Firsd Erth	65	...	...	...
108	71	Flying Flowers	78	+4	1.8	14.7
278	124	French Conn	257	...	...	10.9
364	205	Frost Group†	228	...	3.0	23.0
66	48	Gieves†	55½	-½	3.3	30.2
136	85	Goldsmiths Gp	127	...	1.9	22.8
653	493	GUS†	507	...	3.3	14.6
196	164	Hamleys	178	...	3.3	17.1
31	21	Hampden Grp	23	...	5.4	66.2
227	178	Hse of Fraser	189	-3	3.5	16.2
95	68½	Hogalm (T)†	80	...	4.9	13.1
776	416	Kingfisher	422	+2	4.4	11.1
276	100	Kleeness	109	+3	1.8	*
495	200	Liberty	303	...	2.0	...
380	277	Lloyds Chemt	302	...	3.8	9.7
184	123	MFI	124½	-1½	4.0	15.6
459½	368½	Marks Spencer†	375	+5½	3.2	16.7
880	485	Menzies (John)	501	...	2.9	12.3
377	236	Moss Bros	236	...	3.1	13.4
575	214	Next†	236	+4	3.6	14.5
59	20	OEM	28	...	...	...
97	39	Oliver (G)	65	...	...	29.4
113	73	Partridge Fine	78	...	4.6	10.5
37	12	Pentos	16½	...	...	...
268	160	QS Hldgs	160	...	4.1	17.5
62	18	Rhino Grp	19	...	3.3	18.1
209	137	Ransbys	137	...	4.3	16.0
132	98½	Sears	105½	+2½	4.4	17.9
46	16½	Signet Group	20½	...	...	7.0
549	426	Smith WH	434	+2	4.4	22.4
1260	698	Sotheby†	710	-3	3.9	30.6
252	189	Storehouse	218	+3	3.3	17.7
181½	151½	Stylo	173	...	1.9	11.7
198	146	T & S Stores	183	...	4.8	11.6
173	114	Tie Rack	124	...	1.8	14.7
63¼	3½	Upton & South	4	+	...	...
538	394	Vendome†	459	-1	2.1	35.3
70	29	WEW Group†	29	...	3.0	...
93½	52	Wld of Leather	71	-3	1.1	...
195	138	Wyevale	159	-1	3.6	16.8

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	528½	Allied Domecq†	529	-2	5.4	14.3
459	359	Bulmer (HP)	394	...	3.5	22.1
140	105	Burn Stewart	118	...	5.9	26.2
508	374	Grand Met	384	+2	4.6	17.6
543	421	Guinness	423	-1½	3.9	13.9
457	353	Highland Distl	422	-1	2.2	19.3
222	127	Macallan-Glen	208	...	0.7	54.5
710	365	Macdn Mrtn 'A'†	690	...	1.8	28.7
614	515	Matthew Clark	534	-1	4.2	12.5
250	72	Merrydown Wt	73	...	4.3	...
190	142	Taunton Cider	146	+2	5.9	11.1

SUPPORT SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	94	ACT Group	95	...	6.9	10.0
743	583	ADT	693	+5	...	...
46	34	Alphameric	39	...	...	29.7
140	59	Auto Sec	56	...	...	7.7
182	92	BET Ord†	101½	...	4.2	14.5
199	175	BNB Res	178	...	3.6	20.8
255	175	BPP	228	...	4.9	16.3
186	133	BSM	133	...	6.1	11.3
1¼	¼	Black & Edg	¼	...	...	...
1100	575	Borland	575	...	...	...
226	159	Brit Data Mgt	178	...	3.8	...
79	57	Brooks Service	69	...	3.5	...
117½	81	CBT Grp†	82	...	5.2	19.9
238	156	Capita Group	163	-2	2.1	20.8
423	292	Chubb Sec	298	+1	2.6	18.3
125	105	Compsty People	235	...	1.3	53.5
65	41	Corp Services	59	...	0.5	22.2
97	48	Coutts Cnslt†	51	...	7.0	...
276	212	Davis Service	241	-1	4.2	16.2
83	66	Dudley Jenkins	75	...	5.4	16.6
154	92	EW Fact	93	...	6.6	7.0
199¼	135	El Data Prc	148	...	1.7	...
334	261	Hays	283	-7	2.7	19.3
289	192	Hogg Robinson†	192	-3	4.8	16.9
39	16	Holmes Protectn	25	...	...	1.5
15	8	Intl Cm & Data	11	...	...	5.6
2895¼	1671½	ISS B DK	1671½	-37½	6.2	1.8
165	126	JBA Hldgs	129	...	2.3	13.1
414	231	Johnson Clean	233	...	5.8	9.4
145	99	Kalamazoo†	112	-½	3.9	12.6
288	221	Kewill Sys	245	-1	3.9	8.9
43	17	Lasso-Scot	17	...	...	...
143¼	68	LBMS	97	...	...	...
8	4	Lep	5	...	...	...
321	266	Logica	314	-1	2.0	22.1
241	86	MDIS	104	...	7.5	7.3
196	143	MMT Compt†	198	+1	3.3	15.7
218	109	MR Data Mngt	109	-2	6.3	...
723	423	Macro 4	440	...	5.7	12.4
1865¼	1150¼	Manpower†	1768¼	+3¼	0.2	...
1330	780	Micro Focus	829	-55	...	10.0
178	101	Microgen	102	+1	8.9	10.2
548¼	410	Mitys	411	...	2.5	...
194	147½	Mills Gp	181	-1	7.5	22.3
35	22	Novo Group▼	25	...	1.0	...
82	22	ORS Intl	22	...	10.8	4.1
84	60	P & P	75	...	3.9	18.6
115	85	Michael Page	115	+1	2.5	29.2
149	90	Parity	123	...	2.3	38.3
235	150	Pilgrims	159	...	4.1	15.4
115	92	Prism	98	...	5.1	...
88¼	60¼	Procubuct	68	...	6.4	11.7
415	280	RCO	308	-2	6.2	10.7
48	27	Radius	36	...	1.2	...
179	73	Real Time	172	-1	2.9	13.1
177	104	Reed Executive	142	...	0.9	...
183	105	Reliance Sec	149	...	3.9	...
279	195½	Rentokil	218	-3	1.7	22.4
194	138	Ricardo Group	140	-1	5.4	17.0
215	147½	Rolfe & Nolan	178	...	2.8	27.5
688	507	Sage Gp	558	-1	2.1	*
392	243	Salvesen (C)†	290	-4	4.1	12.9
94	76	Sanderson Elect	79	...	4.5	11.5
17½	9	Select App	13½	...	...	...
438	310	Serco Gp	418	...	1.9	25.3
307	243	Sema Gp	278	-3	1.6	25.3
132	75	Shand Grp	88	-2	...	...
138	92	Shatchley	92	...	4.3	15.5
254	176	Sha-Ptoc	176	-3	6.5	16.7
146	100	Unipalm	120	-1	...	...
31	13½	Vistec†	13½	...	3.7	7.4
85	37	WSP Hldgs	43	...	5.5	29.2
336	300	Warner Howard†	304	...	3.2	14.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
496	353½	BT	369½	-1	5.9	12.9
543	353	Cable Wireless†	354	-2	3.0	14.5
178	108	Filtronic Com	150	...	0.6	50.5
1543	1148	Securicor	1468	...	0.3	36.3
1089	785	Securicor 'A'	935	-1	0.4	23.2
882	606	Security Serv	754	...	1.0	23.9
221	157½	Vodafone†	194½	+1	2.0	25.2

TEXTILES & APPAREL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
138	84	Albion	84	...	6.0	4.1
230	135	Alexdra W	136	-3	5.3	14.5
617	488	Allied Text	526	-1	3.1	18.1
169	84	Atkins	84	...	12.1	26.7
45	31	Automagic	34	...	...	8.6
270	205	Baird (Wm)†	210	...	5.3	17.9
71	37	Beckman (A)†	37	...	12.1	*
290	230	Black (Peter)	230	-1	2.4	16.5
109	74	Bridport-Gndryt	103	...	3.6	8.5
226	171	Br Mohair	185	...	5.7	19.0
74	20	Campari	24	...	...	...
104	80	Cassidy Bros	85	...	4.9	10.9
183	163	Chamb Phipps	190	...	4.9	24.6
385	292	Claremont Gmt	305	-4	3.1	16.9
287	188½	Coats Viyella†	190	+1	5.4	16.5
593	424	Courtaulds Text	427	...	4.2	18.2
158½	117	Dawson†	119	...	3.2	...
143	97½	Dewhirst (IJ)	127½	-½	1.7	18.0
32	32	Dixie Heal	41	...	4.3	12.0
42	25	Drummond	28	...	...	11.7
25	14	Ebbel	14	...	...	...
80	72	Faupel	73	...	8.6	12.0
155	136	Fonmroger	146	...	2.7	*
20	14	Foster (John)	15	+1	...	...
126	94	French (Thmas)	95	...	4.8	18.8
91	48	Gent SH	73	+1	3.8	*
113	73	Haggas	83	...	4.5	*
70½	11	Hartstone	13½	...	3.0	...
33	25½	Halens	26	...	9.7	10.7
263	222	Hicking Pntcst	237	...	2.6	16.7
91	64	Honeysuckle†	64	-1	5.9	*
90	48	Horace Small	87	...	...	...
211	173	Jacques Vert	187	...	3.0	16.5
73	55	Jerome (S)	55	...	1.8	7.0
388	288	Jones Stroud	348	-2	3.2	16.6
202½	125	Lambert	139	...	6.7	12.1
485	333	Lamont	338	-4	4.7	11.3
340	265	Leeds†	270	...	2.9	*
88	51	Leslie Wise Gp	62½	-½	6.0	13.2
101	68	Lyles (S)†	78	...	5.6	8.1
39½	18½	Marling	28	...	3.2	...
17	10	PEX	10	...	...	...
266	158	Parkland†	158	...	4.0	9.4
123	94	Pentland	103	...	3.5	26.4
75	57	Pittards†	67	...	3.3	...
112	59	Readicut	59½	...	7.2	10.0
90	71	Remnant	71	...	4.9	7.5
56	35	Richards	35	...	6.7	*
70	42	SEET	55	+2	...	...
160	83	Sherwood Gp	83	-1	4.6	9.9
180	137½	Shiloh	143	...	3.1	8.7
146	98	Sirdar	98	...	6.9	14.2
64	50	Stirling Gp	57	...	4.2	15.8
25	19	Strong & Fisher	20	...	6.2	13.7
69	40	UK Safety†	40	...	8.1	9.8
132	105	Usher (Frank)	112	...	7.8	8.5
65	34	Vivat	85	...	2.4	16.0
106	42	Wensum	102	-1	3.5	14.9
289	239	Yorklyde	243	...	3.2	11.2

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
83	56	Air London	63	...	8.9	12.0
777¼	619¼	All Nippon Air	691¼	-2½	0.3	*
313½	238	Assoc Br Ports	262	+2	3.2	20.9
541¼	440	BAA†	459	-6	2.6	17.9
138	103½	Badgerline	126	+1	4.1	*
496¼	344	Br Airways†	349	-½	4.1	9.4
108	75	Clarkson (H)	94	...	2.3	23.8
179	140	Dart†	152	-1	3.2	14.7
592¼	195	Eurotunnel Uts	265	-1	...	...
87	50	Fisher (James)	50	...	...	...
508	406	Forth Ports	472	-8	2.0	22.1
236	158	GRT Bus†	228	...	2.1	17.7
183	113	Go-Ahead	163	+1	3.1	20.3
208	125	Goode Durrant	184	...	3.9	15.2
155	128½	[illegible]	140	...	3.9	10.7
71	39	Jacobs (JI)	67	...	3.1	...
111	78	Lon & O'Seas Frgt	79	-1	6.2	1.8
534	368	Mersey Docks	384	-4	3.8	18.1
297	143	NFC†	153	+6	5.9	37.8
347	245	Natl Express	284	-1	3.4	16.4
349	244	Ocean Group	249	+2	7.2	16.5
97	58	Ocean Wilson	68	+1	5.9	9.8
743	587	P & O Dfd	600	...	6.4	18.6
209	183	P & O 5.5%	192	-4	3.8	...
232	84	Seacon	95	...	2.9	...
232	156	Stagecoach	228	-4	3.1	21.2
131	85½	TNT	113	...	...	...
915	703	Tibbet & Britn	714	...	2.6	18.3
79	27	Tiphook	33	-2	...	...
327	197	TOG	210	...	3.7	14.1
138	98	Uplandt	127	...	2.4	...
160	75	Utd Carriers	83	...	2.4	...

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	442	Anglian	483	+11	6.1	10.9
385	293	Mid Kent Hdgst	289	...	4.9	10.1
611	454	North West†	486	+11	6.8	7.1
751	506	Northumbrian†	668	+9	4.8	7.2
545	457	Severn Trent†	490	+7	6.0	6.9
1850	1525	South Staffs†	1835	...	3.7	11.1
682	459	South West†	470	+8	7.0	5.8
617	466	Southern	539	+11	5.4	7.6
379¼	434½	Thames†	448	+10¼	6.5	6.7
744	548	Welsh†	578	+8	5.7	6.4
373½	261	Wessex	288	+5	6.5	7.1
630	458	Yorkshire†	485	+4	6.0	7.1

Source: Finstat

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BRITISH FUNDS

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
107	100	Treas 12% 1995	100	-	11.92	6.69
103¼	97¼	Gas 3% 1990-95	98		3.04	5.97
107	102	Exch 10¼% 1995	102	-	10.04	6.71
113¾	105¼	Treas 12¾% 1995	105¼	-	12.13	6.93
117	107	Treas 14% 1996	107	-	13.06	7.12
121	110	Treas 15¼% 1996	110	-	13.84	7.38
117	107¼	Exch 13¼% 1996	107¼	-	12.30	7.42
112	103	Conv 10% 1996	103	-	9.65	7.01
121	108¼	Treas 13¼% 1997	108¼	-	12.08	7.42
114	104½	Exch 10½% 1997	104	-	10.03	8.08
110	100	Treas 8¾% 1997	101¼	-	8.64	8.22
131	116	Exch 15% 1997	116	-	12.87	8.37
114	102	Exch 9¾% 1998	103½ †	-	9.42	8.44
108	95¼	Treas 7¼% 1998	96¼	-	7.49	8.41
102	83	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	85	-	7.09	8.40
131	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	115	-	12.07	8.55
140	122	Treas 15½% 1998	122¼	-	12.87	8.47
125	110	Exch 12% 1998	111	-	10.79	8.59
116	101	Treas 9½% 1999	103 †	-	9.20	8.51
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
128	111	Exch 12¼% 1999	112	-	10.88	8.67
121	105	Treas 10½% 1999	107	-	9.81	8.56
101	88	Treas 6% 1999	90¼	-	6.64	8.53
121	104	Conv 10¼% 1999	106	-	9.63	8.62
116	99¼	Conv 9% 2000	101¼	-	8.85	8.56
136	116	Treas 13% 2000	118 †	-	10.98	8.72
122	103¼	Treas 10% 2001	105	-	9.44	8.72
106	89	Treas 7% 2001	91	-	7.64	8.62
123	102	Treas 9¾% 2002	105	-	9.24	8.74
113	92¼	Treas 8% 2003	95	-	8.30	8.66
127	104½	Treas 10% 2003	107¼	-	9.29	8.73
129	109	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112	-	10.23	8.87
88	69¼	Fund 3½% 1999-04	73	-	4.73	7.36
125	101	Conv 9½% 2004	105¼	-	9.02	8.67
105¼	84	Treas 6¾% 2004	87	-	7.88	8.58
125¼	102¼	Conv 9½% 2005	105	-½	8.98	8.63
147	118¼	Treas 12½% 2003-05	121¼	-	10.28	8.93
112	90¼	Treas 7¾% 2006	94	-	8.24	8.55
111¼	91	Treas 8% 2002-06	95	-	8.38	8.63
136	112¼	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	115	-	10.15	8.98
119	95	Treas 8½% 2007	98 †	-	8.55	8.58
157	124	Treas 13½% 2004-08	128	-½	10.52	8.94
124	99	Treas 9% 2008	103	-	8.69	8.54
LONGS (over 15 years)						
115	91	Treas 9% 2008	95	-½	8.38	8.54
128	100	Conv 9% 2011	104 †	-½	8.62	8.50
127¼	100	Treas 9% 2012	104	-	8.61	8.48
93½	71¼	Treas 5½% 2008-12	74¼	-	7.38	8.24
117	92	Treas 8% 2013	95¼	-	8.34	8.43
114¼	89	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	93	-	8.31	8.43
128¼	89	Treas 8¾% 2017	103	-	8.48	8.41
158½	126	Exch 12% 2013-17	130	-	9.18	8.64
UNDATED						
54	39	War Ln 3½%	41¼	-	8.38	.
37¼	27	Treas 2½%	29¼	...	8.58	.
INDEX-LINKED						
203¼	197	Treas IL 2% 1996	200¼	-	2.88	4.28
113	108	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108	-	3.13	3.53
176	163¼	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166	-	3.47	3.88
173¼	159	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162	-	3.58	3.89
118¼	107¼	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108¼	-	3.80	3.90
184	165	Treas IL 2% 2006	168 †	-	3.83	3.87
189	149	Treas IL 2½% 2009	152¼	-	3.69	3.89
175¼	154¼	Treas IL 2½% 2011	157¼	-	3.71	3.90
146	126¼	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129	-	3.74	3.91
157	134¼	Treas IL 2½% 2016	137¼	-	3.75	3.91
152	128½	Treas IL 2½% 2020	131	-	3.78	3.92
129	106	Treas IL 2½% 2024	109¼ †	-	3.77	3.98
128	105¼	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	108¼	-	3.80	3.95

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
0800 553 788

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Dividend Accum	151.90	160.70†	+ 0.50	0.40
Dividend Equity	218.90	222.90	– 3.50	1.29
Dividend Euro	192.00	203.10	– 0.80	0.97
Dividend Eqty Bal	107.50	111.40		2.62
Dividend Gilt	72.12	74.35	– 0.33	5.57
Dividend Japan	169.00	178.80†	– 1.20	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
0800 553 231

General Acc	494.70	526.30	– 6.00	2.97
General Inc	436.30	464.20	– 5.20	2.97
UK Growth Acc	333.70	355.10	– 4.10	3.06
UK Growth Inc	299.40	243.80	– 2.80	3.06
Higher Inc Acc	529.80	563.80	– 6.80	4.23
Higher Inc Inc	383.90	387.20	– 4.60	4.23
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	180.80	190.90	– 0.70	8.08
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	97.56	92.85	– 0.25	8.05
North America	240.40	255.80	+ 0.60	...
Far East	332.60	354.10	– 0.40	0.11
Europe	254.30	270.60	– 0.80	0.89
Int Bond	85.88	78.101	– 0.05	5.29
Int Hybrids Acc	96.78	101.90	– 0.70	4.97
Int Fixed Inc	70.28	74.77	– 0.49	4.97
Global Opps	77.90	82.88†	– 0.30	0.40
Balanced Acc	50.87	54.12	– 0.41	3.17
Balanced Inc	49.97	53.06	– 0.40	3.17

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373

High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.98	133.60†	– 0.45	7.58
High Inc Equity	151.60	162.10	– 1.40	4.86
Worldwide Bond	255.90	271.60†	– 1.50	5.69
Capital Growth				
American Growth	368.40	386.60	+ 0.20	.80
Asian Pacific	360.50	382.30	+ 0.50	...
Europe, Ex Emerging	243.00	258.50†	– 3.10	2.75
Comdty & Energy	105.90	112.70	– 0.40	.04
Euro Capital Inc	174.80	133.50	– 1.00	.73
Japan (Accum Units)	133.30	142.50	– 1.10	.72
General	309.00	322.30	– 2.70	2.45
Japan	129.80	131.50	– 0.90	...
Mastercare	133.30	141.80	– 1.00	1.65
UK Growth Dist	112.60	119.40	– 0.30	2.43
US Emerging Cos	124.60	133.20	+ 0.20	...
Income & Growth	353.20	375.70†	– 5.10	3.33
Special	83.51	88.81	– 0.51	3.17
International	112.07	119.10	– 0.40	2.67
Dividend & Growth	56.96	60.60	– 0.57	4.64
Global Gwth & Inc	66.14	70.50	+ 0.07	2.67

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
031 220 0733

UK Small Cos	£16.21	£16.67		

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 500

Amer Inc & Growth	41.06	42.82	+ 0.10	0.73
Cash	50.07	50.07†	– 0.04	4.48
European	102.90	107.50	– 0.90	...
Exempt	944.10	110.16	– 2.10	1.82
Extra Income #	46.80	49.23†	– 0.12	7.16
Far East Emg Eco	106.80	113.60	+ 0.10	0.55
Fixed Interest #	71.89	22.96†	– 0.05	8.98
Front Inv Tst	166.20	177.00	– 0.30	0.85
Japan	179.50	188.00	– 1.10	...
Latin American	72.35	75.84	– 0.21	0.64
Pacific	68.34	72.08	+ 0.03	0.37
Property Shares	59.99	62.57	– 0.05	2.98
UK Emerging Cos	60.89	63.91	– 0.21	1.94
UK Growth	41.29	43.45	– 0.27	2.67
Abtr World Port #	67.67	68.95†	– 0.39	1.39
Ethical	57.75	60.63†	– 0.26	2.90
Gordon Gilt Inc #	48.65	48.65†	– 0.08	7.71

AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD
031 549 3232

British Growth	64.84	68.98	– 0.53	2.72
British Income	74.87	79.64	– 0.76	3.44
Select Portfolio	80.30	85.43	– 0.70	...

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
0452 305 958

Amby Income	70.88	75.12	– 0.41	2.64
Income Builder Inc	63.40	67.45†	– 0.47	3.04

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
FA Dlg: 0793 610 366 Client Dlg: 0793 514 514

Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	211.90	226.50		3.44
Capital	323.00	356.70		3.07
Balanced	629.00	672.40†	+ 1.10	2.97
Accumulator	£11.50	£12.29	+ 1.00	3.30
Income Trusts:				
American Income	44.82	47.91	+ 0.24	3.72
High Income	362.50	387.50	+ 0.60	3.98
Equity Income	297.50	321.80	+ 1.10	3.95
High Yield	221.80	237.10†	+ 0.40	3.57
Gilt Securities	32.39	34.20†	– 0.12	6.20
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	131.30	140.30	+ 1.00	0.50
European Growth	82.30	34.49	+ 0.07	0.61
International	150.80	161.00	+ 0.70	0.50
Japan	202.90	216.30†	– 1.20	0.01
Pacific	377.20	403.20	+ 0.90	0.01
Spec of America	386.00	410.70†	+ 3.40	0.56
Select Asset Val	44.92	48.01	+ 0.07	0.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	475.80	508.80†	+ 0.40	2.51
Comm & Gilt	40.94	43.76	+ 0.11	5.30
Smaller Cos	166.60	169.50		1.31
Sm Smaller Cos	150.60	160.90	+ 0.90	1.51
Recovery	126.10	134.80†		1.94
Mkt Min & Cdty	141.30	151.00†	+ 1.00	0.79
Ocean Earnings	318.70	340.80†	– 0.60	1.86
Technology	150.90	161.30	+ 0.30	0.01
UK Special Sits	412.40	440.80	+ 0.20	1.96

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0293 526 911

Cruncol Our Pens	95.05	98.75		1.45
Founders Pens Pens	90.65	93.01		4.00

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0933

Capital	65.58	69.77	– 0.30	1.89
International	61.51	65.44		

B'ELLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
031 222 4242

America	264.50	274.60	– 1.00	...
Bond	108.50	115.30	– 0.50	7.22
Inc Smlr Cos	94.28	100.30	– 0.51	1.55
Core & Gen #	82.96	88.98	– 0.25	5.59
Energy				
Europe	208.40	222.10	– 0.10	0.52
Exmt Smlr Cos	96.84	102.10†	– 0.10	0.63
Growth & Earth	326.00	346.50	– 0.10	4.63
Japan	315.80	335.40	– 3.20	...
Pacific	96.07	102.20†	+ 0.30	0.27
UK Smlr Cos	49.86	53.06	– 0.04	1.29
UK Trend	41.20	43.85	– 0.27	2.67
Abtr World Port #	67.67	68.95†	– 0.39	1.39
Ethical	57.75	60.63†	– 0.26	2.90
Gordon Gilt Inc #	48.65	48.65†	– 0.08	7.71

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
071 489 8673

Bal & Accum	284.88	276.90	+ 1.00	1.32
Capital Gwth	102.70	108.10	– 1.90	2.48
Market Opps	171.70	180.70	– 0.60	0.45

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
061 534 5544

Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Fd Inc	316.20	329.40†	– 3.80	3.15
European Fd Inc	88.42	91.53	– 0.29	7.81
Exempt	97.45	71.94†	– 0.89	4.57
Financial	92.56	72.34†	– 0.60	2.53
GAO	417.40	446.40	– 2.10	2.55
General	251.10	268.60	– 2.80	2.78
Property	245.90	263.00†		6.16
Trustee	168.00	179.70	– 2.0	2.66
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.70	100.70		4.73
Fxd Income	107.90	115.40	– 1.0	4.38
Gilt & Fxd Int	86.76	87.65†	– 0.08	8.94
Income	485.20	518.90	– 5.80	4.32
Income Builder	58.52	62.58	– 0.47	5.08
Int Income	99.40	63.19	– 0.27	3.73
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	107.80	115.00	– 1.50	2.65
Leisure	113.90	121.80	– 1.10	1.28
Recovery	381.60	408.20	– 4.30	2.02
Smlr Cos Inc	40.74	43.59	– 0.09	2.12
Special Sits	257.40	275.30	– 2.50	1.73
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	117.10	124.30†	+ 0.70	0.74
Asst Acc	234.60	249.90	+ 0.50	2.22
Asst Inc	145.50	154.70†	+ 0.30	1.72
Euro Gwth Inc	140.40	149.00	– 1.30	0.65
Income (Units)	150.30	159.50	– 1.40	0.65
Japan & Gen Inc	174.30	184.60	– 2.0	...
Accum Units	176.30	186.70	– 2.0	...
Japan Smlr Sits	80.54	85.38	– 0.62	...
Pacific	74.35	78.91	– 0.37	0.20
Worldwide	159.00	168.80	– 1.0	0.75

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
081 668 9002

American Growth	87.13	92.53	+ 0.33	...
Amer Smlr Cos	118.70	127.30	+ 1.20	...
Convertibles	53.52	57.23	– 0.21	5.70
Eastern	249.60	269.70	– 0.40	0.10
Equity Income	93.04	98.34	– 0.61	4.90
European Growth	275.10	291.60	– 2.30	1.66
Europe	203.40	216.80†	– 0.90	0.69
German Growth	68.83	70.81	– 0.57	0.13
Global Bond	61.56	64.82	– 0.13	6.40
Global Growth	117.40	125.40	– 0.26	...
Japan Growth	199.90	212.30	– 1.40	...
Japan Smlr	174.00	185.00	– 0.90	...
Korea Trust	79.26	85.65	– 1.76	...
Pacific	123.30	131.80	– 0.90	1.80
(Accum Units)	224.80	240.50	– 1.70	1.80
UK Growth	75.80	81.70	– 0.78	1.48
UK Smaller Cos	81.59	87.28	– 0.71	1.60
Select Managers	69.78	74.69	– 0.47	1.19

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
071 250 3000

Intl Cash Pool Inc	73.12	77.76	+ 0.43	...
Special Oppor Inc	53.06	56.45	+ 0.86	...

BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD
071 236 5641

Balanced	161.50	172.70	– 1.10	1.83
Dividend	79.97	85.39	– 0.62	4.04
Int Gilt & Inc	198.60	212.60	– 1.30	3.48
Uk & Gen	41.36	44.23	– 0.27	1.99
Fund of Funds	60.65	64.87	– 0.54	...

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
041 223 0020

Balanced Growth	99.87	102.51	– 0.96	1.76
(Accum Units)	106.89	115.20	– 1.11	1.76
Smaller Cos	95.48	100.95†	– 3.28	1.33
Higher Yield #	41.64	44.08	– 0.32	4.89
American Gth Inc	65.17	70.03	+ 0.04	...
European Growth	125.26	132.55	– 1.15	0.05
(Accum Units)	127.72	135.12	– 1.17	0.05
Managed Fund #	94.84	27.28†	– 0.12	6.09
Managed Pens Inc	106.54	112.74	– 1.38	0.44
Pacific Gwth	118.54	126.60	– 0.56	...
Formerly LAS				
UK General #	69.66	73.73	– 0.70	3.54
UK Growth (Accum) #	70.42	74.51	– 0.71	3.54
Japan	82.16	85.75	– 0.92	...
Gilt & Fixed Int #	92.99	94.88†	– 0.32	7.31

BURRUGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
071 480 7216

Short Dated Gilt	64.42	65.25	– 0.09	6.31

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
061 837 5080

Envcon	142.20	151.30†	– 0.70	1.83
UK Growth	152.60	162.40	– 1.90	2.53
UK Income	123.10	131.00	– 1.20	4.68

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0707 651 122

Can Gen Dist	172.60	183.00	– 1.90	2.16
-do- Income Dist	100.90	107.00†	– 0.90	4.67
Income Units	304.60	322.90	– 2.40	4.67
Gth & Fid Int	39.18	41.53	– 0.19	8.56

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362

	148.00	149.00	+ 0.10	...
Finance & Gen	72.43	76.71	– 0.70	0.44
European Inc	75.95	80.85	– 0.12	1.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	388.80	411.50	– 3.40	2.45
Growth	373.10	395.70	– 2.30	4.16
Income & Growth	527.90	560.70†	– 3.30	4.16
(Accum Units)	71.32	75.69	– 0.88	...
Japan & Gen	097.43	£101.23†	–50.00	2.02
Master Portfolio	£115.84	£120.35	–60.00	2.02
(Accum Units)	89.26	94.06	– 1.57	2.35
Special Sits	£11.96	£12.35†	–14.00	4.72
High Yield				

For Capital House see Newton

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
071 606 0788

Cazenove Portfolio	78.43	83.63	+ 0.09	2.31
Amer Gen Portfolio	1,233.53	88.90†	+ 0.50	1.22

CENT BD OF FRI OF CHURCH OF ENG
071 588 1815

Inv Fund	644.05	651.35		4.74
Fxd In Sec	148.35	148.40		9.77

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
071 332 5000

Uk Growth Tst	69.42	64.27	– 0.93	3.11

COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD
071 588 1815

Inc	836.85	843.24		4.74
Accum	836.89	127.10		9.59
Inc	129.76	129.95		
(Accum Units)	185.70	186.17		

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
071 637 7987

Intl Growth	120.56	131.29		
UK Income	103.54	112.84		5.327

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
071 407 5088

Recovtion Intl	73.04	77.46		1.56
Stock Mkt-Tech	24.35	27.06†		
Accum Ethical Tst	145.07	152.71†		1.06
City Fin Assets	65.02	69.17		1.32
City Fin America	78.52	83.70		
City Fin Intl	73.26	77.12†		0.94
City Fin Japan	165.61	174.33		
Friars Hse Cos	254.32	274.75		2.0
Friars Hse Inc	185.29	197.12†		4.19
Recovery Intnl Gth	127.86	136.05		0.09
Fishwood Cap Gth	133.09	141.59†		
Fishwood Intl	150.44	158.36†		
City Fin Pens Inc	52.49	55.84†		4.41

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
071 771 0771 Admin: 0277 227 300

Emerging Markets	56.59	60.04	– 0.15	...

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

American Gwth	51.05	54.69	+ 0.19	...
Atlas Mngd Gwth	33.80	36.25	+ 0.14	0.41
Dragon Growth	63.31	67.71	+ 0.01	0.49
Equity High Inc	75.50	80.32†	+ 0.71	4.26
European Gwth	49.97	49.97	+ 0.06	0.86
Exempcore	26.30	28.16	– 0.11	...
General Equity	76.42	81.08	+ 0.57	2.89
Gilt & Fixed Int Inc	24.60	25.24	– 0.12	8.40
Japan Growth	50.43	53.94	– 0.61	...
Pacific Gwth	46.47	49.44	– 0.38	2.86
Pnd Snd Cos Inc	29.91	30.76†	– 0.11	1.25
(Accum Units)	39.04	31.96	– 0.11	1.25
Retirement Inc #	29.84	25.47	– 0.20	8.75
Special Sits	35.20	37.65	– 0.25	2.08
UK & Overseas	44.82	47.58	– 0.07	1.40

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
0634 898 000

Capital	51.37	55.52	– 0.53	2.43
Income	55.55	59.41	– 0.49	4.44

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD
081 686 9818

PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)

Income Funds				
Equity Inc	144.98	154.23	– 1.99	5.81
Fixed & Convertible	38.15	40.60	– 0.24	7.85
Monthly Inc Plus	47.18	50.19	– 0.11	6.68
Preference Shares	44.78	47.64	– 0.07	7.70
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	114.46	121.76	– 2.76	7.66
Managed Fund	63.06	67.09	– 0.41	3.14
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	36.98	39.34	– 0.21	1.78
(Accum Units)	42.31	45.01	– 0.25	1.73
UK & General	71.65	76.22	– 0.92	2.91
(Accum Units)	89.68	95.40	– 1.14	2.91
UK Growth	125.97	135.07	– 1.61	2.52
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	178.43	187.69	– 1.00	0.26
Far Eastern Gth	122.46	130.26	+ 0.06	...
Global Bond	74.59	79.27	– 0.31	6.39
Japan Growth	113.19	120.80	– 1.05	...
North Amer Gth	150.78	160.41	+ 0.02	...
Oriental Growth	71.14	75.68	+ 0.37	...
Worldwide Growth	69.30	64.15	– 0.03	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.22	92.22	+ 0.01	6.39
Nationwide Fund	71.91	76.50	– 0.58	1.97
Quilter Fund	117.76	125.21	– 1.38	3.13

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
0438 744 840

Growth Inc	53.58	57.00	– 0.59	3.20
(Accum Units)	57.30	60.95	– 0.63	3.20
High Income	31.28	33.27	– 0.25	4.80
Japan	35.30	37.55	– 0.23	...
Smaller Cos Inc	28.87	30.71†	– 0.12	2.60
Smaller Cos	30.58	32.53	– 0.12	2.60
North American	30.00	31.91	– 0.15	0.20
European	34.55	36.75	– 0.25	0.59

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
071 467 5969

Consistent UT	29.34	31.48		3.43

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 958

Growth	132.50	141.00†	– 0.80	2.21
Income	66.47	70.72	– 0.13	5.23
European	57.20	60.88†	– 0.24	1.16
Recovery	141.90	151.00	– 0.40	2.38

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
071 283 9494

Equity Dist	777.90	799.70†		3.68

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
0277 699 570

Fortbridge Tst	86.12	70.94	– 0.39	1.39
Income #	217.40	231.20	– 2.25	5.09
(Accss Units) #	335.30	566.40	– 5.50	5.09
Smaller Cos	145.10	154.30	– 0.10	0.07
(Accum Units)	176.50	189.10	– 0.10	0.07
Inv Portfolio	72.57	77.20	– 0.58	1.55
High Inc Port #	93.48	92.53	– 0.53	5.19

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
071 410 0177

Euro Small Cos	£14.74	£15.69†		...
Japan Small Cos	£12.08	£12.30†		...
UK Small Cos	£18.93	£17.69		...
US Small Cos	£14.89	£15.33†		...

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS.
071 377 8819

Disc Inc	192.70	202.90†		2.87

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
031 315 2500

European Gwth	253.10	267.70	– 2.00	1.04
Mine Asia	195.80	206.20	+ 0.90	0.16
Japan Growth	117.80	125.80	– 1.20	...
Jap Smlr Co	488.80	310.80	– 4.00	...
Intl Amer	293.10	247.10	+ 0.20	0.56
United Asia Pac Mt	108.80	115.40	+ 0.50	0.39
UK Inc & Gth	194.30	207.40	– 2.20	3.21

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
0345 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	127.80	135.00	– 1.50	1.97
UK High Inc Inc	135.90	144.60	– 1.60	4.98
(Accum Units)	174.10	185.30	– 2.00	4.98
UK Pref & F Int	65.95	58.28	– 0.18	7.29
Envnmnt Opps	77.80	82.23	– 0.54	1.14

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 090 525

American	112.20	119.10	+ 0.90	1.47
Convertibles #	19.47	20.69†	+ 0.05	0.77
Equity Income #	115.30	122.50†	– 0.40	4.33
Eurofund	41.85	44.46	– 0.19	0.45
Financial	42.85	45.53	– 0.03	1.65
Growth & Inc #	238.50	253.30†	– 1.50	3.47
High Dist #	148.70	149.50†	– 0.50	6.13
International	370.90	394.10	+ 0.50	0.13
Inv Cap Inc	99.81	94.26	– 0.59	2.91
Latin American	48.55	49.68	+ 0.15	...
Pacific	76.82	81.73	– 0.61	0.01
Performance Shars	21.86	23.29	+ 0.01	7.10
Tokyo	222.70	236.60	– 1.86	...
UK Smaller Cos	207.70	220.70	– 0.70	1.25

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
071 242 0242

Elcon Trust	209.72	214.46	– 2.06	0.85

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
071 373 7281

Endurance Fd	191.20	203.40		0.85

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0286 431 480

European	73.77	77.65	+ 0.04	1.74
Global Tst	41.85	43.84	– 0.17	1.36
Far Eastern	262.15	297.69	+ 0.79	1.51
High Income	119.85	126.19†	+ 0.10	6.87
Intl Growth	114.22	120.23	+ 0.07	1.38
North American	182.02	197.39	+ 0.67	1.42
Pelican	108.85	112.56	+ 0.01	8.38
Smaller Cos	85.94	89.49†	+ 0.18	2.48
Special Sits	82.84	87.20	+ 0.02	1.54
Yr of Tst	176.12	185.39	+ 0.02	1.54

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
071 407 5995

Smaller Cos Inc	194.79	202.91	– 0.49	1.44
Smaller Cos Acc	340.97	355.07	– 0.85	1.44
Recovery	49.57	51.64†	– 0.14	1.37
Recovery Acc	50.10	52.19†	– 0.14	1.37

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
0392 412 144

Balanced	106.72	112.47†	– 0.18	0.18
Capital Growth	76.40	81.99	– 0.23	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	43.92	45.89	– 0.15	0.53
High Income #	42.80	45.66	– 0.12	10.06
Warrant	53.53	56.18	– 0.42	...
Zero Preference	35.71	37.80†	+ 0.01	7.900

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Int Bond	28.80	27.90	– 0.07	5.27
Income Funds				
High Income	24.37	25.64†	– 0.14	5.28
Income Plus	103.50	110.10†	– 1.00	4.59
Amer Ex Inc	43.85	45.52	+ 0.18	1.25
European Income	38.41	41.04	– 0.11	2.05
Far East Inc	34.58	36.39	– 0.17	2.25
Global Opportunities	21.52	23.36	– 0.15	3.99
UK Div Gth	32.35	33.77	– 0.20	2.02
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	57.58	60.43	+ 0.43	...
American	219.00	232.10†	+ 1.00	...
Amer Spec Sits	103.00	110.00	+ 0.10	...
Japan Smaller Cos	39.05	41.86	– 0.44	...
European	155.10	165.00	– 1.10	...
European Opps	56.32	60.06	– 0.26	...
Global Prin	22.83	24.39	– 0.10	1.29
UK Growth	63.45	68.72	– 0.73	...
Growth & Inc	129.60	137.90	– 1.10	2.66
Intl PEP	33.09	35.19	– 0.14	...
Japan Spec Sits	191.90	204.60	– 2.00	...
Japan	256.00	271.40	– 0.80	...
Moneybuilder	46.35	49.36	– 0.26	...
Recovery	44.74	47.58	– 0.30	...
Special Sits	134.50	143.50	+ 2.50	...
South E Asia	466.40	496.00	– 3.50	...
Special Sits				
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	107.42	107.42	+ 0.01	5.10

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
071 814 2700

Balanced #	121.20	124.20		1.59
Inc Plus #	78.51	81.05†	– 0.06	4.09
Cap Plus	132.50	135.80	– 1.40	0.76
General Opps	116.30	119.60†		3.53
Growth Inc	28.71	28.77†	– 0.32	1.65
Private Portfolio	384.00	391.90		1.51

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
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Hyde Foreign & Colonial				
European	104.60	110.60	– 1.60	0.56
Emrg Asian	156.90	166.60		
High Income	79.42	21.74†	– 0.14	10.35
Oriental Income	87.50	93.41†	– 0.34	3.08

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
071 374 4100

American Growth	49.81	53.19	+ 0.34	...
(Accum Units)	49.81	53.19	+ 0.34	...
Amer Smlr Cos	418.70	447.70	– 0.50	...
(Accum Units)	427.70	457.30	– 0.50	...
Capital Tst	294.90	313.60	– 1.10	1.61
(Accum Units)	421.20	448.00	– 1.50	1.61
Cont'l Smlr Cos	54.83	58.73	– 0.38	0.71
(Accum Units)	57.65	61.76	– 0.40	0.71
Convertible	124.30	132.20	– 0.79	5.87
(Accum Units)	245.20	260.80	– 1.48	5.87
Emerging Markets	76.15	81.35†	– 0.17	...
(Accum Units)	76.21	81.43†	– 0.17	...
Europhilia	109.90	116.80	– 0.80	0.18
(Accum Units)	115.10	122.10	– 0.90	0.18
Euro Income	308.20	327.80	– 2.00	4.15
(Accum Units)	456.10	485.10	– 3.10	4.15
Financial	166.80	118.50†	– 0.30	0.30

FACILITIES

MANAGEMENT

Time to stop the forgers

Rodney Hobson on the never-ending battle between security printers and criminals

The share certificate looked authentic enough. It could have been mistaken for the real thing but for one problem. The word VOID appeared across it several times in large letters. The attempt at forgery was part of the never-ending battle between security printers and criminals who try to keep one step in front of each other. The spectacular improvement in colour photocopiers means that just about any document worth copying — from dividend warrants to box-office tickets — can be reproduced in graphic detail.

One way that the forgers can be thwarted is to put in a watermark which is invisible on the genuine item but which shows up in photocopying.

So great is the problem that the banks have banded together to step up security next year. They will introduce new measures next month and security printers have been asked to phase in similar anti-fraud measures as current stocks are used up.

Since banks generally contract out the printing of chequebooks, the pressure is on security printers to move as quickly as possible. Bob Fellows, managing director of Multisets, a security printer, says: "Colour copiers are so good that forged documents can easily be passed off on the layman. One way round this is to use ultraviolet invisible inks that will not show up on the photocopy. The bank can verify the cheque under an ultraviolet light. If the cheque does not give off the right message, the bank will immediately be suspicious and will check whether it is genuine."

Multisets specialises in producing cheques on continuous stationery for large companies. Instead of using chequebooks that are slow to use and soon run out, the cheques are fed through a typewriter or computer printer in the same way as an ordinary reel of paper.

Mr Fellows says that another new feature will be to use inks that are sensitive to solvents. It has been possible to use brake fluid to remove the name of the recipient of a genuine cheque or the amount payable and substitute a new name or a larger figure. The intention is to prevent details being removed selectively without damaging the whole cheque.

The market for security printing is divided between three large companies and about half a dozen smaller ones. It is an expensive business because technology is always being updated. Mr Fellows says: "It is a difficult market for a newcomer to break into because of the cost of new machinery. A newcomer would initially have to take market share from an existing printer rather than create new business."

If anything, he says, one or two security printers have dropped out. Yet despite the move towards the paperless office, security printing is not in decline and some parts of the business are growing, albeit slowly. Privatisation was accompanied by an upsurge in the issue of share certificates and a new lease of life was provided for the industry when the Stock Exchange was force to abandon plans for Taurus, its all-electronic share dealing system.

Some companies have specialised in the distribution, rather than the printing, of security documents. One is Carwin. Ed Carson, the managing director, says: "A sophisticated network of distributors has grown up over the past 20 years. It dates back to the growth of computers. Technology was changing so quickly that printers needed to be changing their equipment every five minutes to keep up. We could take supplies from several printers, each with its own specialisation.

"You would not buy a Ford car from Ford, you would go to a dealership. You would not buy a Mars Bar from Mars, you would go to a sweet shop. Manufacturers are not geared up to deal direct with the consumer."

Despite the attempts to improve security, some in the industry feel that the problems of forgery are not always taken seriously enough. One printer, who asked not to be named, says: "The more security features shown, the better it is, but how secure are the special inks at the ink manufacturers? A security measure is only as secure as the person supplying the product and some security ink manufacturers will sell to every Tom, Dick and Harry."

He says that not enough effort is being put into making box-office tickets and store gift vouchers forgery-proof: "Some big stores never learn. It's about time they woke up. One retail chain lost £2.5 million last Christmas through forged gift vouchers. How big a hit do they need? We have got the tools for anyone who is prepared to pick up the tab. We spend a lot of money on research and we are not going to give the products away."



Printing up a forest

The printer is more popular than ever, despite the paperless office

The paperless office has arrived, but offices continue to be swamped by paper. This is largely because of the availability of comparatively cheap and reliable office printers, which means everyone can have a printout of what they see on their screen, to read at home, to check on the train or simply to provide reassurance that the machine has got it right.

Paper prices may be rising, but our appetite for documentation seems to be insatiable.

Almost 9 million printers were sold in the UK in 1993, an increase of 8 per cent on the year, according to market research by BIS Strategic Decisions. About 4 million units were inkjet printers, almost all were designed for personal use, 1.5 million more than in 1992 and the survival of a long-term mass dot matrix market seems in doubt.

Fewer than 3 million dot matrix printers were imported into the UK in 1993, 1.3 million fewer than in 1992. Forecasts suggest that by 1998, the dot matrix market will be reduced to a dwindling niche sector with just 5 per cent of total printer sales for use in areas which need high volume multi-part stationery.

However, this sector of the market is still vitally important, particularly because it offers a comparatively cheap and reliable source of printed output and it is these machines which are huge consumers of business forms.

The office-supplier Mannesmann Tally believes dot matrix will still represent 20 per cent of the total printer market by 1998 and the manufacturer Citizen agrees, claiming sales of its ABC Colour dot matrix printer are 30 per cent above market expectations. It says this proves that it is still a viable technology in the small-office/home office market where an occasional low-cost colour capability is a bonus.

However, inkjet is clearly the technology for the masses. The total UK printer market in 1993 was worth £740 million of which inkjet printers commanded a 23.6 per cent share by value, 36 per cent by units. Of that market, Canon claimed a 41 per cent share in value, 52 per cent by units.

The big four manufacturers of core inkjet technology, Canon, Epson, Hewlett Packard and Olivetti, expect to take advantage of the trend towards colour-capable inkjet printing. BIS forecasts sales of 6 million such units a year by 1998. BIS and Printer Europe, Dataquest point to the rise in the sales of laser/LED printers as an indication that the days of mono inkjet printers are numbered.

At the high-volume end of the market, analysts such as the Gartner Group, point to the advantages of IBM's strategic architecture (AFP).

Information from any source in any form can be printed out on any printer when AFP is used. Rank Xerox has launched a range of network printers featuring intuitive software, called Document Services for Printing. It enables users to search the office network for the printer that best suits the needs of the job at the time.

The advance of colour printing in the general office is also gathering pace, with thermal transfer technology the main contender. Industry analysts suggest that laser is the colour technology of the future. BIS Strategic Decisions forecasts that this sector will grow faster than colour copiers, with unit sales rising from 130 units in 1992 to 32,500 in 1997.

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هكذا من الأصل

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Who looks after the famous Christmas tree for Trafalgar Square once it leaves Norway? **Rodney Hobson** reports

Caring for the big spruce

What is 75ft high and comes around once a year? The answer to this Christmas riddle is one of the most unusual, challenging and high-profile facilities management assignments.

The Christmas tree which stands in Trafalgar Square, an annual gift from the people of Oslo, has arrived in London every year since 1947. Building & Property Facilities Management, under its guise as part of the Ministry of Works, has erected it and is tending it from early December to Twelfth Night.

Last year, Building & Property was privatised and its links with the public sector have been gradually freed. This year, the Christmas tree contract went out to tender from the Department of National Heritage. Building & Property won the right to carry on with its seasonal task for another three years.

Several individuals working on the project have been associated with the tradition for more than ten years. A Polish ex-serviceman, who came to Britain during the Second World War, turns up to lend his support even though he has retired.

Because of its sheer size — the tree is always between 65ft and 80ft tall — the transporting of the gift from the inclement Nordic slopes is a daunting exercise in logistics.

Tim Owen, the project co-ordinator, says: "Cutting the tree down is a high-tech operation carried out in quite deep snow. A large tractor clamps the tree at the bottom and three-quarters of the way up while the trunk is sawn through. The tree is then pulled out vertically until it is clear of the other trees and twisted round onto a loader. We rely on the head forester to pick us a good one and he has never let us down."

The tree is shipped to Felixstowe docks in Suffolk, where Building & Property takes over. It is transferred to an extendable low loader and taken by road to a secure store within 25 minutes of central London.

It stays on the trailer in storage to minimise handling. On the appointed day — this year it was Monday last week — the tree has to be brought to Trafalgar Square in the dark.

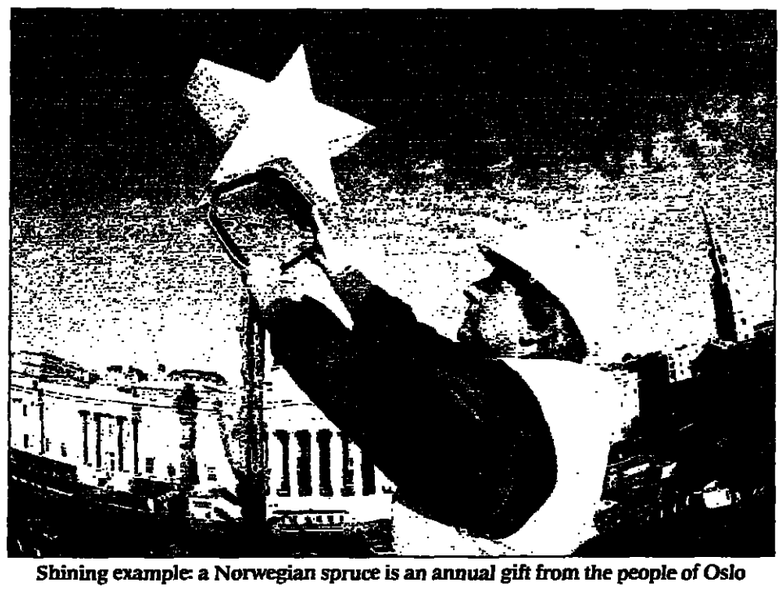
Mr Owen says: "It is a police requirement that all abnormal loads must use the square before 7am because of the public right of access."

When the tree is erected, it is graced with a star and 500 white lights the size of golf balls. "We use plain decorations as a contrast to the lights on the surrounding buildings," Mr Owen says. "The bulbs drop vertically in strands from a loop at the top. We do not twist them around in a corkscrew as people do at home. It saves us getting in a lot of tangles."

The tree is checked daily. Fortunately, any bulbs that blow are likely to be on the lower branches, which sway more in the wind so they are easily replaced. The lights were switched on last Thursday and will shine from 3pm to midnight each day.

Managing the project also includes installing safety barriers, rostrums and sound systems and hoisting flags. Protective hoardings are put around the fountains and statues for the celebrations at new year.

When the season is over, Building & Property will cut the tree into shorter sections and it is taken away. At one time, the tree was burnt in Richmond Park, but for the past four years it has been recycled as chippings.



Shining example: a Norwegian spruce is an annual gift from the people of Oslo

IN BRIEF

☐ THE Hillingdon Hospital has appointed Procord to manage its facilities contracts covering catering, portering, cleaning, sterile supplies and laundry services.

The appointment of a Procord management team to act on behalf of the west London hospital in running, assessing and monitoring the contracts follows a consultancy project undertaken by Procord to guide Hillingdon Hospital in its strategic options for improving services. Company consultants worked with the Hillingdon Hospital management team to assess future needs for services, benchmark existing services, prepare contract specifications that allowed performance and quality measurement, manage the contract tender procedure and select a suitable sub-contractor.

Stewart Wood, who headed the Procord team, says: "The Hillingdon Hospital has taken the forward-looking decision to plan a strategy for maximising the value and quality of support services in the coming years."

☐ AN INTERNATIONAL network which could link facilities managers in Australia, France, Britain, America, Japan, Canada and The Netherlands is being developed by the British Institute of Facilities Management (BIFM).

Global FM will operate from the start of the new year and will provide information on key issues for BIFM members on an international basis, foster the development of facilities management internationally, and encourage the growth of international organisations in the FM field.

Global FM will be operated by a council made up of representatives of the various national facilities management organisations and the BIFM will start an on-line information service early in the new year.

☐ *BOOKINGS* for FM EXPO on March 7 to 9 at Olympia are continuing to come in. The exhibition and conference will provide a focus for the industry. John Crawshaw, director-general of the BIFM, said FM Expo will be a shop window for the industry.

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Your switch needs changing.

Can you afford to sit there reading this paper?

Did you know that your area code changed last August?

If this comes as news to you, you're not alone. It's reckoned that over one million businesses don't know their new number. And of those who do, some 51% still haven't done anything about it.

So how has your code changed? Well, as announced by OFTEL, most area codes now have a number 1 added after the initial 0. For example, calls to London are now 0171 and 0181.

As for the five cities of Sheffield, Leicester, Leeds, Nottingham and Bristol, they now have entirely new codes. And the international access code has also changed. From 010 to 00.

All very well and good, but how does all this affect your business?

Having your call barring system updated could save you money

Put quite simply, if you don't tell customers of your code change you're making it harder for them to get in touch. And you run the risk of losing business unknowingly.

What's more, the change in code will affect your company's call barring system.

Remember that any misuse of your phone system could cost you money.

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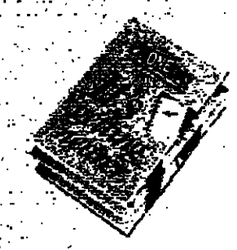
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How television has lost its novelty value

Pleasure principle changes the view

ARGUMENTS such as "common sense tells us that violent television leads to violent behaviour" usually leave me cold. Common sense, after all, tells us that the Sun goes around the Earth and that a pound of lead falls faster than a pound of feathers.

It seems plain to me, however, that more channels must mean less viewing — that, as choice increases, the temptation to flick through the lot and switch off is growing

Most of us now are down to just under three hours of viewing a day, according to the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Its recent report that British viewers are watching less television than at any time since 1985 attracted headlines and stirred up controversy. The trade press has since claimed that the news stories were misleading. They were said to have ignored the statistics that homes with cable and satellite view on average three hours and 15 minutes a day and that in many of the supposedly switched-off homes, the TV set is on — used for playing videos or computer games.

Even if only the four main terrestrial channels are involved, however, advertisers and policymakers seek the cause of the decline. Bad programmes and repeats have been blamed.

A simpler reason is that the novelty of television is wearing off. Today's youth, brought up on computers and videos, has no more idea of the single-channel, black-and-white set than of the privy at the bottom of the garden. The young cannot imagine how, as chronicled in the British Film Institute's excellent new *British Television*, a guide to the past 60 years, 20 million people crowded around two million small screens in 1953 to watch the Coronation.

Another BFI publication, its *Film and Television Handbook 1995*, suggests that the Great British Public may be switching off television as it rediscovers the pleasure of going out to the pictures. Cinema admissions have more than doubled in the past nine years, from 54 million in 1984 to 114 million in 1993. And the rise is among all age groups and social classes. That is no mystery to me, for whom sitting in the dark, enveloped in Dolby sound and audience reaction is the only way to watch a film.

The cinema industry seems to credit the growth of multiplexes: more screens on



BRENDA MADDOX

more sites than ever. But other factors play a part, such as credit-card booking. It is at last possible to decide to go to the cinema on the night and to get in, rather then queueing for an hour, then failing to get a seat.

The film industry probably recognises, although it cannot say so, that at the picture palace the audience gets the chance to see the film before the television censors get at it. BBC2 and ITV are particularly hobbled by the combination of the so-called "watershed", before which no "adult" scenes or language may appear, and by schedule commitments.

WILL greater choice of TV programmes mean less arrogance among their makers? Sir Peregrine Worsthorne recently proclaimed himself a victim of accepting an invitation to be on a programme only to be "disinvited" at the last minute. He described how, after having accepted an invitation to appear on *Newsnight*, he spent the afternoon honing a well-turned piece only to be told that he was not delivering what had been expected.

I know the tone; I heard it last year from an acolyte of *The Late Show*. After sending me to three David Hare plays and phoning repeatedly over a week to talk about the planned discussion, I was told that it had been decided to use Polly Toynbee instead

Fair enough, perhaps, for journalists and politicians, who should be more wary. But not for many others who have undergone the disruption of home or office by a full camera crew only to sit expectantly when the programme goes out and their contribution never appears.

Those who accept invitations to be on television should, if appropriate, ask for a fee, whether or not they appear and in every case insist on being told whether their contribution is in the end not to be used.

TWO WEEKS ago, I misstated the kind of service that Michael Heseltine forbids BT and Mercury from carrying over telephone lines. The Department of Trade and Industry prevents telephone companies from offering a film or any entertainment programme simultaneously to a number of homes.

That so-called "entertainment" business, similar to broadcasting, is to be reserved for cable television until 2001. BT could get into it by applying for more cable franchises, which it chooses not to do. It now owns only Westminster Cable. But BT and Mercury *are* allowed, if they wish, to develop on their own lines a video-on-demand service — supplying a film upon request, dialled up like a pizza — to a single home. Sorry.

Can Yentob pick winners?

The lottery may be shedding audience, but BBC1's controller is not downhearted. Look, he tells **Alexandra Frean**, *at the successes . . .*

Middle England is in the throes of a minor moral dilemma and is struggling to come to terms with a major cultural upheaval. As usual in such circumstances it is taking out its pent-up and complex anxieties on that easiest of targets, the BBC.

That is one explanation doing the rounds at BBC Television Centre for all the abuse being hurled at BBC1's Saturday evening National Lottery draw. The programme's audience has declined from 21 million for the first lotttery draw to around 15 million three weeks later and has been described as amateurish, mindless and boring.

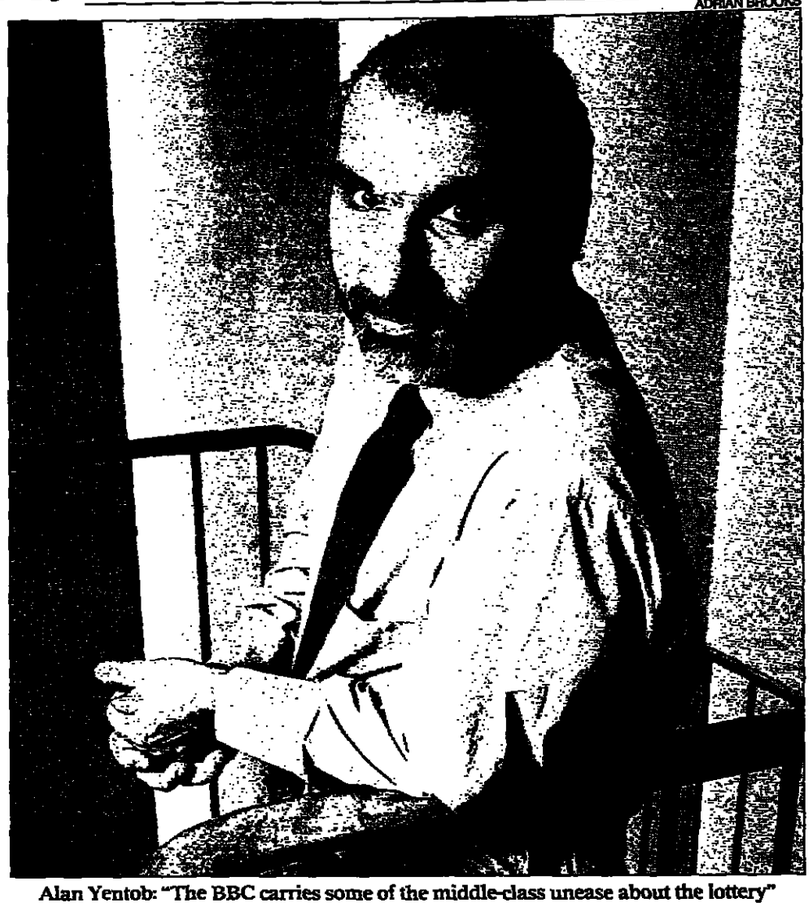
Alan Yentob, controller of BBC1, believes that much of the criticism of the show is motivated by snobbery. "I don't know quite what expectations people had, but obiously there is something very contentious about this huge new thing that has come in and we at the BBC are carrying some of the middle-class worry, unease and slight guilt about it," he says.

It is risible, Yentob maintains, to imagine that a programme is not successful when its audience begins to level out at 15 million viewers, roughly 54 per cent of available viewers. He adds that anybody who thought that the 15-minute programme would attract 20 million viewers week-in week-out, is "completely mad" — an opinion that might more helpfully have been expressed before the show went on air.

Yentob insists that he is happy with the lottery programme's Pinky and Perky-esque presenters Anthea Turner and Gordon Kennedy, adding that he has received only two viewer complaints about the show. He concedes, however, that he is already discussing modifications to the format with the lottery operator, Camelot, to be introduced when the show's first four-month run, together with Turner and Kennedy's contracts, come to an end in the middle of March.

By then he hopes that a steady stream of multimillionaire jackpot winners and scores of stories about charities and other good causes will be around to liven up the presentation. He will just have to hope that the audience won't all have defected to ITV by then.

ADRIAN BROOKS



Alan Yentob: "The BBC carries some of the middle-class unease about the lottery"

In the meantime, Yentob's tasks are, first, to scotch a few untimely rumours and then to get on with pushing out his new winter schedule.

So, for the record: no, he is not going to Hollywood. Nor is he being kicked upstairs to Michael Grade's old job of director of programmes, leaving the control of BBC1 to David Liddiment, head of entertainment. "It's all nonsense," he says. "I feel pretty confident with with what I'm doing, and so do the people who run the BBC."

Yentob's confidence is not entirely misplaced. Some senior managers at the BBC say privately that the schedule he inherited from Jonathan Powell when he took over as BBC1 controller nearly two years ago, would have driven viewers away in droves. Yentob has certainly checked that decline.

Since his arrival, he has broadened BBC1's range of programmes, increasing science, documentary and leisure output, cutting back on repeats, reviving the classic novel adaptation and commissioning brave new dramas such as *Cardiac Arrest*.

The Vicar of Dibley, Dawn French's new ecclesiastical sitcom, has come straight into the ratings chart with well over 10 million viewers. BBC1 has won three International Emmy awards this year and Yentob can also claim credit for the highest audience on a single channel in the 1990s — 25.3 million for an episode of *EastEnders* in late October.

Yentob adds that BBC1 has maintained its all-hours audience share at 32.2 per cent so far this year, while ITV's share has dropped 0.4 per cent to 39.6. BBC1 has also matched ITV's 0.3 per cent increase in peak-time audience share over the year.

What Yentob does not say is that during the all-important autumn season when audiences are biggest, BBC1's peak-time share is down 1.3 per cent this year and ITV's is up 1.1 per cent. This is partly a reflection of the BBC's inability to match ITV's popular dramas, such as *Heartbeat* (now attracting 17.5 million viewers), *London's Burning* (17 million), *Soldier, Soldier* (16 million) and *The Bill* (13 million).

Audiences for BBC1's new dramas, *Seaforth* and *Crocodile Shoes*, which have been watched by about seven million, look positively weedy by comparison. Yentob will be hoping for better results with new winter dramas which include *Dangerfield*, starring Nigel Le Vallant as a rural police surgeon, and *Ghosts*, a six-part Saturday evening series of stories about the paranormal.

For the rest of the new schedule Yentob is playing to BBC1's strengths in comedy, documentary and classic drama. He has poached Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie's sketch from ITV. Also on the way are Sir David Attenborough's new natural history series, *The Private Life of Plants* (described by Attenborough as his best yet) and a five-part adaptation of Edith Wharton's novel, *The Buccaneers*.

But as Yentob himself emphasises, his problem is not just getting new shows on the air or in beating ITV, it is to serve a diverse audience with a wide range of programmes, from classic serials, to lottery game-shows and popular drama. And that brings us back to the basic question raised by his handling of the lottery programme. Has Yentob — known for highbrow programming when he was at BBC2 — yet developed the all-round popular touch needed at BBC1?

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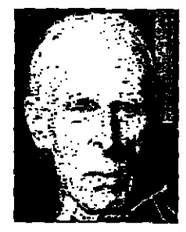
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THEATRE page 34
A melodramatic heroine struggles against misplaced comedy in The Little Match Girl

ARTS

GALLERIES page 35
John Piper: a style of painting so distinctive and rich it makes us want to look twice



LITERATURE: **Nicolette Jones** charts a year of unprecedented bickering and undreamt-of successes

Tales from behind the bookshelves

It has been a contentious year in the book trade. Authors have taken issue with their publishers; booksellers have grumbled at prizes that should have been useful to help them to sell books; literary editors have badmouthed literary adjudicators in a way that made the Cold War look inviting (as it already was to one); and the public has objected to what it perceived as exploitation in the publishing industry. The trade has always had its disputes, but 1994 came close to burying that persistent myth of gentlemanliness.

The year also proved that treason is not what it was. When Anna Pasternak's book *Princess in Love* was published in October, alleging an affair between the Princess of Wales and Major James Hewitt, heads did not roll. Drums did. Publication was announced by Bloomsbury with such fanfare that 75,000 copies sold out in 24 hours. Sales soon slowed down, though, and Pasternak's Mills and Boon-ish prose met with a hostile press.

Meanwhile, Joanna Trollope, one of Bloomsbury's most successful authors, was moved to write to the company expressing her disapproval. Rights in the book were nonetheless sold in 14 foreign countries.

In November Jonathan Dimbleby's *The Prince of Wales: A Biography* aimed to offer a rehabilitating portrait of the heir to the throne, but this and its related documentary drew fire both for the Prince's apparent admission of infidelity and for his unconventional views on being the head of the Church. Royal biographer Andrew Morton also penned a new book: *Diana: Her New Life*. It failed to have the impact of his first Diana opus, however: extracts did little to boost sales of *The Sunday Times*.

These royal books raised an important question. Not "should monarchy survive?", but "should serialisation survive?". Sales of *Princess in Love* benefited from the decision *not* to run extracts in any of the newspapers.

It was a good year for the Booker Prize, though. There were fierce arguments at every stage, which always enhances its impact. First of all, one of the judges, James Wood, was accused of not declaring an interest in a novel by his wife, Claire Messud. He defended himself with the argument that he had not believed the book was a serious contender. The public may have been appeased, but was his wife?

When the shortlist was announced it turned out to include a book that had not been able to find a British publisher, and was eventually printed by the author: Jill Paton Walsh's *Knowledge of Angels*. Paton Walsh criticised British publishing for the "culture of anxiety" that stopped it from taking risks. The shortlist as a whole was unpopular with booksellers: one described it unhelpfully as a "Mogadon" list.

But this was nothing to the kerfuffle over the final judging. Rabbi Julia Neuberger called the voting system a "shambles". The winner, James Kelman's internal monologue of a disadvantaged Glaswegian, *How Late It Was, How Late*, was, said the Rabbi, "deeply inaccessible for a lot of people". Simon Jenkins fulminated against it in these pages; literary editors were disparaging. The chairman of Booker, Sir Michael Caine, retaliated by saying that "these days literary editors seemed united by their common dislike of literature".

The biographical controversy of the year (if you discount those royal books) was triggered by rival views of the late Graham Greene. The official biographer, Norman Sherry, brought Greene up to the 1950s with the second substantial volume of his *A Life of Graham Greene*, which, apart from some revelations about Greene's extramarital affairs, was largely sympathetic. But Michael Shelden's exposé, *Graham Greene: The Man Within*, accused Greene of being an alcoholic, a liar, a closet homosexual and an active member of the Secret Service all his life. A third opinion was expressed by Greene's confessor, and his friend and travelling companion for 27 years, Father Leopoldo Duran, whose somewhat ill-defined memoir, *Graham Greene: Friend and Brother*, portrayed Greene as a man of piety and good works.

In his lifetime, Greene might have been a contender for laurels awarded by *The Sunday Times* in March. Authors and critics were invited to nominate "the greatest writer now working in English". Saul Bellow came out on top, followed by John Updike, with Muriel Spark and Iris Murdoch (a subsequent favourite with readers) in contention. More remarkable, though, was the fact that Jeanette Winterson, notorious for once having recommended her own novel as her book of the year, chose herself, with the assertion that: "No one working in the English language now comes close to my exuberance, my passion, my fidelity to words." Her new novel, *Art and Lies*, went on to get short shrift from the critics.

Perhaps it is appropriate in the context of greatest novelists to mention the supermodel Naomi Campbell. Or not. Her fiction debut, *Swan*, was perceived by many members of the public as the ultimate in cynical marketing. No secret was made of the fact that her book was (co-)written by editor Caroline Upcher, under the pen name Carly McIntyre. The publishers, for their part, redefined a word by declaring that though Campbell did not write the book, she was "very much the author". Despite all this, the book made it into the bestseller lists — and was held to be much more of a success than Campbell's simultaneous debut as a pop singer.

As her Wimbledon career came to a close, Martina Navratilova also made a foray into fiction, with the first of three novels, confessedly co-authored with Liz Nickles. *The Total Zone* concerns a "fan" who stalks a tennis player; Navratilova seems at least to have contributed her insider knowledge.

Stephen Spender took offence this year at a novel written by David Leavitt, *While England Sleeps*, which he accused of stealing an episode from his autobiography *World Within World*. Leavitt saw no harm in using a real incident as inspiration, but the publishers agreed after court proceedings to recall and pulp existing copies and republish with minor changes.

Other publishing celebrities of the year included George Eliot, who made it to the top of the bestseller lists with *Middlemarch*, aided by Andrew Davies's television adaptation; Edith Wharton who did the same with *Age of Innocence* thanks to Martin Scorsese; and W.H. Auden, whose collection of poems, *Tell Me the Truth About Love*, has sold 100,000 copies on the basis of his work's contribution to the screenplay of *Four Weddings and A Funeral*.

It was also a profitable year for the Pope, who received £4 million for world rights in his bestselling collection of essays, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*; for Alan Clark who was offered a rumoured £400,000 to write another volume of diaries for next year; and for Kingsley Amis, who will get £300,000 for his next two books from his new publisher HarperCollins.

And it was a boom year for a handful of first novelists. Screenwriters Allan Folsom (in America) and Nicholas Evans (in Britain), US attorney David Baldacci, Carol O'Connell (whose novel came out of a publisher's unsolicited "slush pile"), and British financiers Michael Ridpath and Linda Davies — authors, respectively, of *The Day After Tomorrow*, *The Horse Whisperer*, *The Executive Power*, *Mallory's Oracle*, *Free to Trade* and *Nest of Vipers* — all became millionaires with one book. Fiction could be a better bet than the National Lottery.



POP

Lowe hits new high

THE TONE of the reference entry on Nick Lowe has always depended on who was writing the encyclopaedia. To some he is a new-wave midwife from his time attending the birth of Stiff Records. To others, with his subsequent series of user-friendly 45s, Lowe championed "pure pop for now people".

Others again mark him down as the masterful producer of the early Elvis Costello canon. To those with the longest memories of all, and those who saw one of his skeletons turfed out recently on *Later with Jools Holland*, "Basher" is an unreformed pub-rocker from his distant days with Brinsley Schwarz.

Part of his great charm these days is that Lowe does not run from any of those references but now, in his mid-40s, has the maturity (not to mention the bank balance) to run at his own pace and not pursue the pop mainstream.

Hence the appearance lately, at venues from Tokyo to Leeds, of a thoroughly superior pub-rock combo. Nick Lowe and the Impossible Birds — specialities: country-rock and rock 'n' roll — boast the might of drummer Bobby Irwin, bassist Paul Riley, keyboard-accordion ace Geraint Watkins and, on guitar, Bill Kirchen, once Commander Cody's right-hand man in country-rock pioneers the Lost Planet Airmen.

Nick Lowe
Empire, W12

This is the line-up that plays on Lowe's delightful new album, *The Impossible Bird*, a record that wears its country influences boldly but takes them home to Brentford to meet the locals. Thus Lowe, looking relaxed, treated the Shepherd's Bush audience to such characteristic wryness as "Where are the children 2.3/That were meant to be sent to me?" on "Where's My Everything?" On another new song, "14 Days", his character walks out on his woman with one last aside. "In two weeks' time, you will notice I've been gone, for 14 days."

Such a twang in the team does not allow for a reprise of that power-pop period of "I Love the Sound of Breaking Glass", but Lowe & Co delivered a splendid "Cruel to be Kind" and a selection of his more traditionally-inspired oldies. Returning alone, Lowe performed the superb, autobiographical "The Beast in Me", recently covered by his ex-father-in-law, Johnny Cash. A new two-way family favourite.

PAUL SEXTON

CONCERT: A memorable *Gerontius*

An impassioned dream of reality

TO DISCOVER who are the critics at a concert, watch for the people who leap for the door at the end. This time, however, most of my colleagues remained in their seats, thoughtfully silent, overwhelmed by the extraordinary power of Sir Colin Davis's reading with the London Symphony Orchestra of Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*. So it was with me.

LSO/Davis
Barbican

For many, myself included, Gerontius's affirmation of faith through the sequence of death, purgatory and eternal life is only its topmost layer. It is a more generally pertinent piece, about bringing us face to face with our own deaths and dyings and of those close to us.

Most potently, it brings to mind specific griefs. Even though its departing point is the stiff old Victorian oratorio, it transcends its origins and takes flight on wings of impassioned inspiration forcing us to confront our deepest fears and to wonder anew at what it is really like to die. That was the effect of this mighty performance, in which the LSO, sustaining its excellent form, was at one with Davis's matchless vision.

Not everything was perfect. Anthony Michaels-Moore declared himself unfit because of a cold, and there was a huskiness — not unattractive — in the upper regions of his voice. But still the impassioned sound he made as Priest and Angel of Agony was a marvellous one, big and round and well-lubricated. Thomas Moser, as Gerontius, man and soul, disappointed. There was a hint of flatness and strain when he sang at less than full volume, but more seriously he sometimes seemed reluctant to realise the full drama of the moment, as though over-conscious of the sacredness of the piece.

Sometimes, too, he swallowed his words, and that glorious moment near the end, when he sings "Take me away", lacked fearsome urgency, though its corresponding cry in Part One, "Novissima hora est", duly sent shivers down the spine. If she lacked the rapt concentration of a Janet Baker, Anne Sofie von Otter was a sympathetic, bright-voiced Angel, and the London Symphony Chorus sang nigh impeccably, whether as rasping devils or sweetly boyish angels.

STEPHEN PETTITT

From Wotan to ringmaster

The celebrated bass John Tomlinson is making his operatic directing debut with Verdi's early work, *Oberto*

Britain's leading Wagner bass, John Tomlinson, has temporarily given up Wotan's spear, or one-way traffic sign as it appeared in Covent Garden's recent *Ring*. Instead he has been sitting in the director's chair.

Tomorrow sees the opening of *Oberto* at the Grand Theatre in Leeds. This is the first time Tomlinson has produced an opera and he will also be singing the title role. *Oberto* is also Verdi's first opera and there were five years of struggle before it saw the inside of a theatre, although the house in question was La Scala, Milan.

Tomlinson's decision both to stage and sing *Oberto* was taken but three months ago. Nicholas Payne, while he was still in charge of Opera North, had persuaded Tomlinson to turn to early Verdi and take a break from *The Ring*. He has been the regular Wotan at Bayreuth and the Deutsche Staatsoper, Berlin, as well as in London. Ian Judge was engaged as producer. Earlier this year Judge began to get cold feet about *Oberto*, which he found too awkward and weak, and pulled out. Opera North turned to Tim Albery, who thought rather better of the piece, but eventually he too said no. So at the end of August Opera North had a cast which had been learning a virtually unknown work but no one to tell them what to do.

At this point John Tomlinson offered his own services. Had he previously guarded a few secret directorial ambitions? "Absolutely not. If someone had told me a year ago that I was going to direct an opera I would have put the idea right out of their mind. I'm an old warrior in theatre now — a bit like Oberto himself — with almost 25 years on stage, but I've never considered myself as a director. Why? I might have the visual and the dramatic qualifications, but I cannot claim the academic knowledge. Anyhow, I enjoy singing and people reckon I'm quite good at it."

So was this just pressure of circumstances? "In part. I had assigned three months and more of my life to *Oberto* and so had the rest of the cast. None of us wanted to see it disappear overnight. But earlier in the summer while rehearsing the Bayreuth *Ring* in my free days I was studying *Oberto* and beginning to have a few ideas about it. There are so many of the seeds there of later Verdi, not just in the music but also in the plot. The story of the father (Oberto) seeking vengeance for his wronged daughter has obvious parallels with *Rigoletto*. But I also see Oberto as the representative of a conquered people. Here the *Aida* element comes in because we have two ladies, one representing the victors and the other the vanquished, fighting for the tenor's hand in marriage. You could see *Oberto* as an interrupted wedding ceremony."

> "It's an advantage having an opera that few people know"

Parts of *Oberto* are static, with formal Donizettian choruses. Verdi has not yet had the courage to break out from time to time from the established aria-followed-by-cabaletta formula. Tomlinson's job has been to put some flesh on these all-too-operatic bones, sidestep the "awkward moments", including some rapid and none-too-easily explained changes of scene. He discussed the weaknesses with Ian Judge, an old friend, but came up with his own solution.

Tomlinson is rare among international singers in preferring to work with directors who put their personal stamp on the production: men like Harry Kupfer and Richard Jones. When Jones appeared on stage to thunderous booing on the opening night of the Covent Garden *Rheingold* Tomlinson was the man who led him out. He claims that he was "assigned" the task, but he probably would have elected to do it anyway.

Tomlinson's personal stamp on *Oberto* is to move it out of the 13th century, where Verdi set it, to the first quarter of the present one. "I wanted to emphasise the generational gap and to show that Oberto himself has almost outlived his time. You can hardly do this by leaving the whole thing back in 1228, when to our eyes one generation looks much like another. Move it up to the period around the First World War and the contrast can be made, especially through costume, between Victorian formality and post-1918 hedonism. It is also a wonderful advantage having an opera which very few people know: you don't have to begin by struggling against preconceived ideas."



Driving the "combine harvester": John Tomlinson, right, offers director's advice on the set of *Oberto*

Tomlinson is a burly, bearded Lancastrian whose stamina has never been in question. Weeds do not sing Wotan, Boris or Rossini's Mosé, the role which led to his first Bayreuth invitation in the mid-1980s. So how demanding has this first excursion into singing and directing been? "Extremely. Throughout I've used an understudy wherever we've been rehearsing, because I've always had to spend most of the time at the director's desk. It's only at the end of the day that I've been able to join in with the rest of the cast.

"At the beginning the adrenalin really flows: it's like being at the controls of a mammoth combine harvester for the first time — you ask yourself whether you really have all this power beneath you. But then you realise the huge gap between the objective stance of the director and purely subjective role of the performer. If I did the double again then I'd almost certainly go for an opera where the bass role was less prominent."

John Tomlinson leaves the impression that he has rather enjoyed being at the controls of that combine harvester and may be tempted again, Wotan permitting. "Well it does avoid one question. I'm constantly asked in public and in private why I just don't countermand the orders of directors who ask me to do out-of-the-ordinary things on stage, especially in Wagner. If you're in charge, at least that one doesn't arise."

JOHN HIGGINS

● *Oberto opens at the Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 459351) tomorrow*

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

THE THREEPENNY OPERA: Opening night for Tom Hollander, singing Macheath in Kurt Weill's opera. Words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht". Phyllida Lloyd directs; designs by Vicky Mortimer; new song lyrics by Jeremy Sams
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (071-369 1732). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

LAMMAS: Jazz, celtic folk and classical music fuse in the work of this group, winner of the Best Small Ensemble category at the 1993 British Jazz Awards. A highlight of tonight's end-of-tour concert is the world premiere of Tim Garland's *Circle Suite*, written for Lammas and Opus 20 String Septet
Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800). Tonight, 8pm

CHRISTMAS OFF THE WEST END: The regular team of David Cregan (writer) and Philip Hedley (director) offer a twice-a-day colourful knees-up of **Sleeping Beauty** over in Stratford East. There's more panto in Hackney as Barry Cryer and Michelle Collins star in **Jack and the Beanstalk Theatre** and Hoxton Hall's famous Victorian music hall is transformed into a fully rigged set for **Cut-Throat, Voyage to Treasure Island**, a concoction that blends Stevenson's *Treasure Island* with the historical figures of famous women pirates.
Royal Stratford East, *Gerry Raffles* Square, E15 (081-534 0310). Mon-Sat, 2.15 and 7.15pm, until Jan 28
Hackney Empire, Mare Street, E8 (081-985 2424). Today, 10.30am and 2pm, until Jan 14. **Hoxton Hall**, Hoxton Street, N1 (071-739 5431). This Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 3pm and 7.30pm, check box office for schedule; until Jan 14

ELSEWHERE

BLACKPOOL: Massimo Moncone's production of *A Christmas Carol* for **Northern Ballet Theatre** is a welcome change from the many *Nutcrackers on stage all around the country*. Glorious costumes and sets; a "musical dance drama" complete with ringing carols. Christopher Gable directs
Grand, Church Street (0253 28372). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Thurs, 2pm and Sat, 2.30pm.

EDINBURGH: The American mezzo-soprano **Frederica von Stade** makes her only UK appearance this year tonight, with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. Her programme is devoted to arias from 12 of Offenbach's operettas, which she is recording with the SCO following the concert.
Usher Hall, Clerk Street (031-228 1155). Tonight, 7.45pm.

MANCHESTER: Take a break with the ***BBC Philharmonic*** *today for a free* Lunchtime Prom, an hour of works by Prokofiev, Caplet and Rimsky-Korsakov. Yan Pascal Tortelier conducts.
Town Hall, Albert Square, 12.45pm. No ticket required.

BRIGHTON: The Museum and Art Gallery has mounted a thought-provoking exhibit this holiday season with **Andrzej Jackowski**'s *Reveries of Dispossession*. Jackowski was born in Wales of Polish parents after the Second World War; his figurative, award-winning paintings all address a theme of alienation and restlessness — his style brings back "the notion of the dappled", à la Bonnard. On a lighter note, audiences can laugh, gasp, hiss and boo at **The Magic World of Aladdin** from tomorrow (Theatre Royal), with Colin Baker and David Yip. And while you are out and about, don't miss **Hugo Barclay**'s annual Christmas Jewellery Show; this gallery is packed full of delights for lovers of modern, individual top-class crafts.
Brighton Museum, Church Street, (0273 603005). Mon-Tue, Thurs-Sat, 10am-5pm, Sun, 2-5pm: until Jan 8. **Theatre Royal**, New Road (328488). Tomorrow, 7.30pm; until Jan 7. **Hugo Barclay**, 7 East Street (321694). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm, Sun, 2-5.30pm; until Dec 24

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Byzantine Treasures from British Collections (071-636 1555) **Hayward**: The Romantic Spirit in German Art 1790-1990 (071-928 3144) **National Portrait Gallery**: The Sitwells (071-306 0055) . **National Gallery**: The Young Michelangelo (071-839 3321) . . . **Royal Academy**: The Glory of Venice, last day (071-439 7438) **Serpentine**: Rebecca Horn (071-402 6075) . . **Tate**: Whistler, Clore Gallery (071-887 8000) . . **V & A**: Nehru Gallery (071-938 8500) . . **Whitechapel**: Words in a Box (071-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

□ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: Nigel Hawthorne amusing as the dilapidated Lord Ogleby but his direction prettifies and diminishes the play. Some clever supporting performances
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sats and Dec 21 and 28, 2.30pm

□ **FASCINATING AIDA**: The girls are back with an evening of glamour, quick wits and sharp tongues
Garrick, Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 8pm. Sat, 5pm and 8.15pm. Until Jan 21

◪ **GRIMM TALES**: *Hansel and Gretel* and *Iron Hans*, woven together with other tales recorded by the Brothers Grimm. Carol Ann Duffy (adapter) and Tim Supple (director) have a great gory gruesome hit
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, at different times. Until Jan 21

■ **ION**: Nicholas Wright directs Euripides's tragi-comedy, neatly described a "drama of epic characters with domestic problems". Superb performances led by Jude Law as the boy dismayed to learn that Apollo raped his mother
Pit, Barbican Centre EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm. Thurs 2pm and 7.15pm

■ **OLIVER!**: Lavish revival of Bart's merry musical. Low on social comment, big on tunes. Jonathan Pryce as Fagin
Palladium, Argyll St, W1 (071-494 5020). Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

◪ **A PASSIONATE WOMAN**: Stephanie Cole plays a woman who'd rather sit on the roof and dream than attend her son's wedding. Ned Sherrin directs Kay Mellor's entertaining, though lightweight comedy
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

◪ **SLAVS**: After *Angels in America* *Tony Kushner looks at what* Communism did to Russia. Matthew Lloyd directs a splendid cast that includes Imelda Staunton, Ron Cook, Paul Jesson, Aisling O'Sullivan, and Peter Copley
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

■ ***THREE TALL WOMEN***: *Maggie* Smith, Frances de la Tour and Anastasia Hille show how youthful high spirits petrify into grim old age. Superb performances in Albee's drama
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-369 1736). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

■ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS**: *Patrick Barlow (aka Desmond Olivier* Dingle of the National Theatre of Brent) plays Toad in the annual Christmas return to the riverbank.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). *Previews today*, 2pm and 7.15pm. Opens tomorrow.

□ **TOPP SECRET**: An evening of good humour, musical larks and camp parody by the NZ identical Topp twins
Drill Hall, Chenies Street, WC1 (071-637 8270). Tue-Sat, 8pm. Until Jan 7

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Arcadia**: Haymarket (071-930 8800) □ **Beautiful Thing**: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) □ **Blood Brothers**: *Phoenix (071-867 1044)* . . ◪ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) . . . □ **Copacabana**: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . □ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) . □ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ◪ **Grease**: Dominion (071-416 6060) ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Aldwych (071-836 6404) . . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . □ **Neville's Island**: Apollo (071-494 5070) . □ **On Approval**: Playhouse (071-839 4401) . □ **Once on This Island**: Island (Royalty), (071-*494 5090)* . . . □ ***Only the Lonely***: Piccadilly (071-369 1734) . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) □ **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie**: Strand (071-930 8800) . ◪ **The Queen and I**: Vaudeville (071-836 9987) . . . □ **She Loves Me**: Savoy (071-836 8888) . . □ **The Sisters Rosensweig**: Old Vic (071-928 7616) . ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◪ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (071-344 0055) ◪ **Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

ABOVE THE RIM (15): Clichéd basketball movie set in Harlem. Jeff Pollack directs Duane Martin, Leon and Tupac Shakur
Electric (071-792 2020/0328) **MGMs: Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031)

JUNIOR (PG): Juvenile japes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director Ivan Reitman
Empire (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker St** (071-935 9772), **Fulham Rd** (071-370 2636), **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE PUNK AND THE PRINCESS (18): Odd, engaging modern variation on Romeo and Juliet. Mike Sarne (one of the 1960s' likely lads) directs a young cast and crew
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148)

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT! III (U): Erratic dip into the MGM musical vaults, with rare footage, bad footage and a few polished gems. With Gene Kelly, Cyd Charisse and others
NFT (071-928 3232)

CURRENT

◆ **CORRINA, CORRINA** (PG): *Housemaid Whoopi Goldberg* reawakens a household numbed by grief. Increasingly predictable sentimental drama, with Ray Liotta
Odeon Kensington (0426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

CRONOS (18): An alchemist's device offers eternal youth and a taste for *blood. Guillermo del Toro's imaginative* Mexican vampire film
Metro (071-437 0757)

◆ **HIGHLANDER III: THE SORCERER** (15): Incoherent addition to the tiresome series about Christopher Lambert's wandering immortal. Director, Andy Morahan
MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Plaza** (0500 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **I LOVE TROUBLE** (PG): Romantic comedy thriller that fails to match its vintage Hollywood models. With Julia Roberts and Nick Nolte, director Charles Shyer
Odeon West End (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **MARY SHELLEY'S FRANKENSTEIN** (15): Unwieldy, overdone, unenjoyable slog through the famous story. Kenneth Branagh directs and stars with Robert De Niro and Helena Bonham Carter.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) ***Odeons: Kensington*** *(0426 914666)* **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** (U): John Hughes's gooey but just about digestible remake of the 1947 fantasy, with Richard Attenborough as a department store Santa.
Barbican *(071-638 8891)* ***MGM*** **Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (792 3332)

MY FAIR LADY (U): Resplendent restored print of the 1964 musical, with Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, very familiar tunes and Edwardian finery galore. Directed by George Cukor
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-636 6279)

◆ **THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS** (PG): The King of Hallowe'en tries to take over Christmas. Technically brilliant puppet fantasy conceived by Tim Burton, directed by Henry Selick.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426 915 574) **Screen/Baker St** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (792 3332)

THE SHADOW (12): Laboured adventures of the 1930s crimefighter, with Alec Baldwin, John Lone and Penelope Ann Miller. Director, Russell Mulcahy
Warner (071-437 4343)

◆ **SPEED** (15): Enjoyable package of thrills, with Keanu Reeves as the SWAT team daredevil faced with a bomb on an LA bus. With Sandra Bullock and Dennis Hopper.
MGM Trocadero (071-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** (0426 915683)

◆ **TRIAL BY JURY** (15): Will juror Joanne Whalley-Kilmer submit to Mafia pressure? Laughable courtroom drama, with Gabriel Byrne, William Hurt and Armand Assante. Director, Heywood Gould
MGMs: Fulham Road *(071-370* 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

THEATRE: Hans Andersen with seasoning; Caribbean frolics; and cowboy cavorting

Christmas jollity? Not this time

The Little Match Girl
Lyric, Hammersmith

KIERKEGAARD was known as the Gloomy Dane, but the works of his *contemporary Hans Andersen cannot* be called a barrel of laughs either. A few of his characters wander among the hazards of life to reach a happy ending but not the heroine of the tale Neil Bartlett has chosen to dramatise for his Christmas show. Hungry and shivering, *she lights her matches to* warm her little hands at the little flames — everything about her is described by Andersen as little, except her hair. In three visions she sees a warming fire, food and a Christmas tree, then she burns all the remaining *matches and dear, dead Granny comes* to take her up to heaven, leaving her body — sorry, her little body — to freeze to death. It is all over in nine paragraphs.

That the story can be effectively dramatised was proved by the ingenious and charming version put on at the Orange Tree three Christmases ago, set in Edwardian London with dancing appearances by streetwalkers, pearly kings and a circus strongman. What the little match girl's rough night on the streets cannot mix with — and how foolish to suppose it could — *is* jolly japes from the Forkbeard Fantasy Brothers (Chris and Tim Britton) playing incompetent angels, big-bellied snowmen, monstrous ladies with dogs, council workmen — "Keener cleaners for your thorough borough" — and fops in powdered wigs, *all* of whom appear in this production.

Jollity is a necessary constituent of the visions, or can be made to seem so, and the most attractive sequence at the Lyric brought on an impressive roast turkey (Steve Fortune's head poking out from one end), a dozen dancing sprouts, and three spoonfuls of mashed potato, joined together at the waists and sprinkled with parsley. *Bartlett's lyrics* are at their friendliest here: "It makes you feel a trollop / To be served up as a dollop." I admit that there is absolutely no reason why being dolloped should make a potato feel this but the rhyme is original.

Leah Hausman's very ordinary production does nothing to give the visions a magical feel. Gauzes go up and down, lighting dims or brightens; barefoot Sian Reeves, who certainly looks chilly in her thin, green slip, allows her drawn face to light up with a smile and retires to the side of the stage to watch, say, the animated urns on a wall do their turn. The urgency of her need comes and goes but it is contradicted at every re-entry of the Forkbeard Fantasy pair, grimacing and bumping into each other.

There is also a Scottish Granny (Terry Neason), who only offers visions when clearly she has the power to hand over a winning lottery ticket if she chose. Her idea of comforting the girl is to say to her, "Tell yourself it's not happening". I tried it myself but it doesn't work.

JEREMY KINGSTON



MARILYN KINGWILL

Uneasy match: Sian Reeves, a melodramatic heroine stuggling against inappropriate comic interludes

Reviving a happy tradition

Maskarade
Cochrane, WC1

THE Cochrane's festive family show, an unusual musical presented by Talawa, comes all the way from the Caribbean. The pleasure of *Maskarade* is that it revives Jonkunnu. That is the street theatre of Jamaica with *which slaves originally celebrated* a few days of freedom at Christmas. Masked and splendidly costumed, they made merry in their finery, yet simultaneously satirised their over-dressed overlords.

Jonkunnu, as director Yvonne Brewster re-creates it, is something like an Olde English mummer play mixed with the Notting Hill Carnival. Pitchie Patchie — purging evil and costumed in coloured ribbons — rushes about like a rag carpet with a mind of its own. Meanwhile, the old King, with a mask painted like a playing-card royal and a three-foot crown, battles to the death over possession of his Queen with the foppish Suitor-Prince. The King is then resurrected by a ridiculous doctor: a *witch doctor doing unlikely things with* a dusty fish; a money-grabbing mummer-play physician and a revolutionary, who queries resuscitating the monarch.

But all this comes after the interval when a deadly evening suddenly blossoms. The Jonkunna drama is a play-in-a-play. It takes the visards to release the cast. Before this they have been playing the locals of Kingston getting supposedly comically ensnared in love rivalries even as they prepare to take ironically fitting parts in the street drama. It is December 1841: the year of the Jonkunnu riots that culminated in the tradition's suppression. But the company energy seems squashed already, not doing Sylvia Wynter's lively script justice. They are unanimated, some inaudible. The set, creating a town out of bamboo blinds, is pretty. However, energy seems to disperse into its spaciousness.

*Isira Makuloluwe, the trained danc*er of the company, is actually irritatingly incongruous, making earthily sexy movements effetely balletic. Cy Grant's Narrator is ill-at-ease: it is like watching Jacob Bronowski trying to get on down and be wizardy. Allister *Bain as Driver*, the ageing local with his eye on a girl, gives an unsure performance. Still, Angela Wynter, as Driver's jilted amour, pinpoints comic caricature with her back arched in a blend of suspicion and vanity. And, when the end twists into tragedy, she sings a negro spiritual lament with mellow grief.

KATE BASSETT



Allister Bain as Driver, the ageing local with his eye on a girl

Low budget, high spirits

Calamity Jane
BAC, Battersea

THE Steam Industry has *squeezed* a big musical out of a small bank account. Phil Willmott's company is jovially — if recklessly — grappling with *Calamity Jane*, the Fain and Webster romantic comic western made famous by the film starring pistol-packing Doris Day. *Kate Bassett writes.*

Showbiz without big bucks can warm the cockles of one's heart. Willmott presumably pawned his worldly possessions to pay for the set: a wood-panelled saloon plus gallery where tomboy Calam, Wild Bill, dashing Danny, and pretty Katie vie and eventually pair off. A mighty crowd of young performers shows willing. Deadwood has its lively bouts of side-kicking, knee-smacking cowboy cavorting, but the Steam Industry can't fully cope with the show's demands. The *en masse* singing is hearty, but soloists verge on the flat or faltering. Wild Bill looks nervous (though Jason Griffiths proved heroic, carrying on with blood trickling down his face after cracking his head on the bar). When it comes to the love duet between Danny and Katie, a couple of smoochy glove-puppet dogs raise enough laughter to drown the music.

Patricia Villa, as the growling saloon broad Mrs Miller, is not alone in hamming up the comedy. But she does sing "The Black Hills of Dakota" with beautiful huskiness. Tina Deen cuts a fine figure as Chicago showgirl Adelaide Adams. "It's Harry I'm Planning to Marry" turns into a terrifically tongue-in-cheek, on-the-cheap routine as Miss Adams's camp chorus line flap around her waving cardboard stars. However, given *Willmott's commitment to* gay theatre, his shallow exploration of the story's cross-dressing and cross-attractions is disappointing.

Leigh McDonald's boisterous Calamity does the cowboy walk with patellae pointing east and west but, in her whipcracking numbers her vocal cords sound over-exercised. It is only when she lets the woman inside her loose, confessing her secret love for Bill, that McDonald finds her voice, flooding the space with song.

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

SPINK, Chinese Textiles *Exhibition. 5-23 December.* Mon-Fri, 9-5.30, Tues 9-7.30, Sat 10-1. **Watercolours of fruit & vegetables by Susannah Blaxill.** Until 23 December. Mon-Fri, 9-5.30, Tues 9-7.30

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OUT OF A HOUSE WALKED A MAN...musical scenes from the writings of Daniil Kharms, devised by Theatre de Complicite. Tomor 7.30
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CATS
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00
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Bars open at 6.45
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THE MOUSETRAP

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A RIGHT ROYAL ROMP
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MAGGIE SMITH
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ANASTASIA HILLE
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THREE TALL WOMEN
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Kathleen Livingstone, Ameral Gunson
Neil Jenkins, John Noble
Kent Choir of 400 voices
Maidstone Symphony Orchestra
BRIAN WRIGHT
Tickets: £12 £10 £8 from 071 724 3716

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VISUAL ART: A multimedia feast; new work inspired by old masters; Chepik's Paris obsession

The pick of the Piper collection

Jim McCue views John Piper's work, which proves that drawing in one medium often means drawing on another

John Piper used colour and shape quite separately. It is as though the right lobe did not know what the left lobe was doing. But you have to hand it to him: he evolved a style distinctive and rich, which makes us look again.

His best-known works are his paintings of architectural exteriors. Whether grand or homely, these are buildings that have marked the spot for generations: special, immemorial places which Piper painted both in and out of time. The draughtsman would draw, with wonderful feeling for the curve of a Norman arch or the bulk of a castle keep, and then the colourist would superimpose the feeling of the moment.

> ‘Church towers beckon like Jacob's ladder’

Two strands of Piper's self-training were at work. From boyhood he had gone looking at churches, and by 14 he had visited every one in his native Surrey (one wonders whether early sketchbooks survive?). Then after art school, in the late 1920s and the 1930s, he came under the influence of great modernists such as Braque, Mondrian, Arp and Brancusi, and exhibited in avant-garde shows with the 7 & 5 Society, which allowed only non-representational pieces.

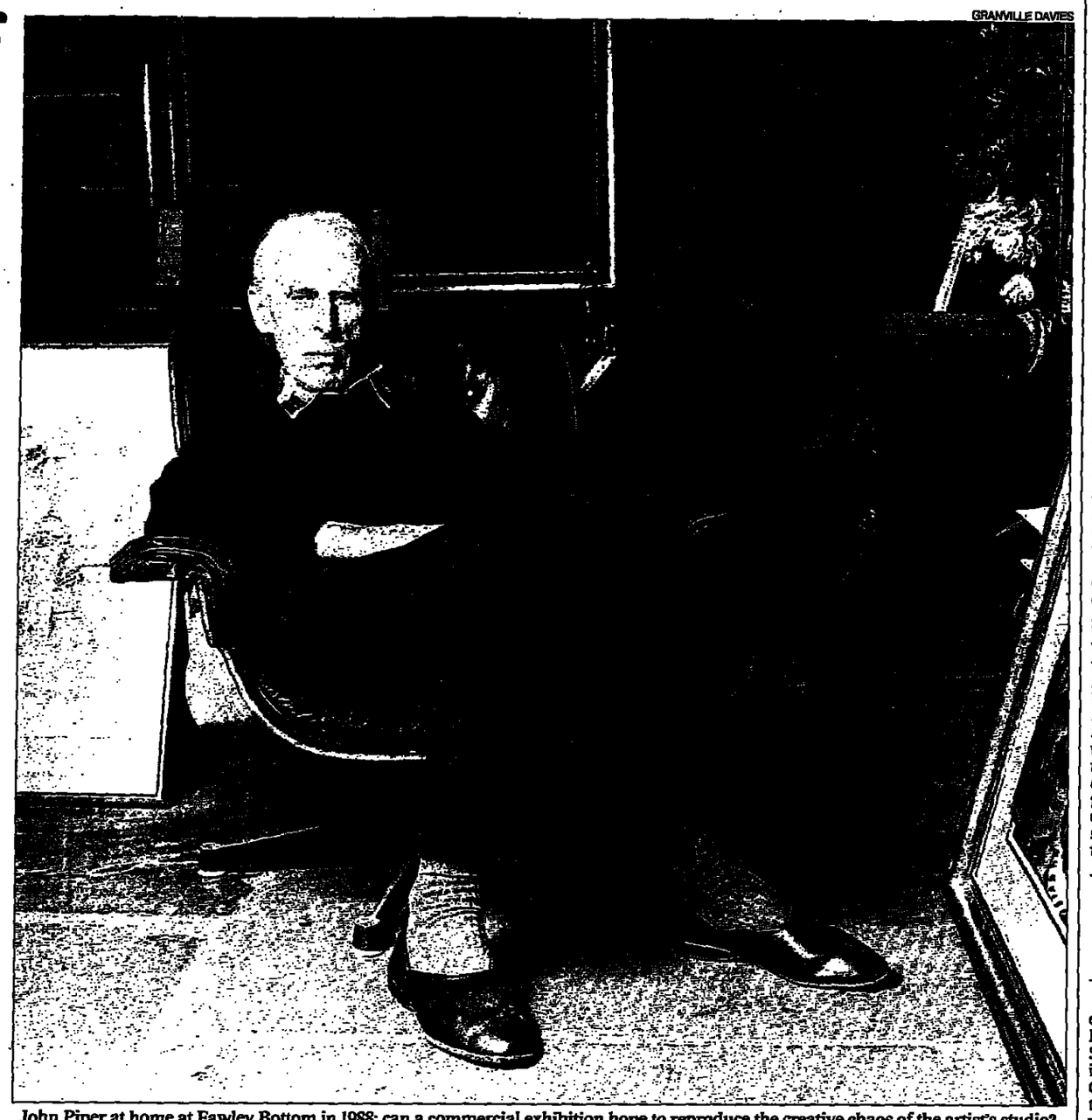
A small 1936 *Abstract Composition*, from the collection of his widow, Myfanwy, is included in "John Piper: From his Studio" at the Berkeley Square Gallery, but there is nothing personal about it, and something half-hearted. With no identifiable subject, what was there to feel about? Piper was too late on the scene for the new theories to be his own, and was anyway too much the practical man. He learnt from abstraction, but had his own attachments, and these claims became the more pressing under the threat of war. His book *English Romantic Artists* of 1942 accordingly highlights Blake, Palmer and Turner.

Subscribing fully to the modernist movement might have meant disowning his love of weather, the built heritage and texture (some lovely slate rubbings in the show). Instead, Piper brought the two together. From his paintings of bombed churches onwards, many of his pictures offer both an architectural representation and a more or less independent arrangement of exuberant colour. In some cases the colours relate approximately to the contours and the tones of stone and sky; in others they are just flat areas of emotive sombreness or brilliance.

Chambord (1971) shows the château as the heart of light, white-yellow intensity in near darkness. It is like approaching the throne of God. Interesting, then, to see among his photographs — which are all black-and-white — a high-contrast print of its chaos of turrets, cupolas, windows and zigzagging pinnacles. It is an extraordinary image, taken with a telephoto lens and apparently by floodlight, but perhaps using a filter to blacken the sky. The effect is dramatic, stagy, Piperesque.

Some of his most striking watercolours and screenprints suggest nature's *son et lumière*: the flash of inspiration that is lightning. Others evoke the sky at its limits. *Ruishton* shows the church tower in a ghostly, chalky blue and orangey pinks, standing out from the louring dusk and grey stone nave, as if in a visionary moment. Is it an apocalyptic hint or just chance that the clock stands at a minute before 12?

Church towers became a favourite subject. Themselves vertical slashes of colour, they beckon upwards like Jacob's ladder. The *West Walton* tower stands in a shaft of white. Other effects are more extreme still: *Waddesdon* is shown as though burning down; *Harlaxton (Blue)* is a Spielberg fairy palace.



GRANVILLE DAVIES

John Piper at home at Fawley Bottom in 1988: can a commercial exhibition hope to reproduce the creative chaos of the artist's studio?

But this exhibition, which packs a pick of Piper, is not all topographical, nor all painting. The intention is to evoke the creative clutter of Fawley Bottom, the Pipers' Oxfordshire home for more than 50 years. A selling show can hardly do this, because the house was full of the half-finished, of *objets trouvés* and the work of others, which would be out of place in Bruton Street. But Myfanwy has lent works including full-size cartoons for stained-glass windows, to show the range of Piper's interests.

There is a scale model of his stage set for Britten's *Death in Venice* (1974, libretto by Myfanwy), which forms a concertina anthology of the city's canals and channels and dead ends. This led to a series of screenprints. Piper's juxtaposition of different architectural perspectives and elements here is almost cubist. Near by in the gallery stand two obelisks, perhaps 18in high, of which each face is painted with ruined arches. There four-dimensional facets create an odd, prismatic effect: cubism in the round.

But furthermore, the obelisks were inspired, we are told, by "Inigo Jones theatre designs": by the work, that is, of the landscape painter and architect who brought the Palladian style to England from the Veneto, and introduced the proscenium arch and moveable scenery to the English stage. This play between the theatre, painting and architecture squares both the circle and Piper's debt to his predecessor.

This is typical of the way that drawing in one medium or genre often meant drawing upon another. The sketches recording church decorations, for instance, are not always distinct from Piper's own new designs, and ideas on paper were often translated into stained glass — again, great vertical lights — or ceramics or tapestry.

The Foliate Heads of the 1970s and 1980s adapt the ancient figure of the Green Man for several media. Roundels or rectangles, they portray mask-like features peeping through, or else composed of, branches and tendrils, all overlaid with avant-garde colours. His French friends of the 1930s might have hated the idea of a series of heads called "The Seasons", but it is Piper who now looks the more modern.

● John Piper: From his Studio *is at the Berkeley Square Gallery, 23a Bruton St, London W1 (071-493 7939). Continues until February 12*

JAZZ

Five truly alive

JUST before this Wellins-Stroman Quintet gig was due to start, "Body and Soul", jazz's most celebrated tenor vehicle, came on over the club PA. Bobby Wellins immediately began contributing a subtle, breathy solo over the famous chord sequence which somehow contrived to exhibit, even in this most informal of settings, many of the qualities which make him such a distinctive and special tenor player. While sticking closely to the tune's melody and taking few liberties with the beat, he nevertheless managed to produce an entirely individual commentary on the tune, a sort of wispy obligato tinged with melancholy.

It set the tone for the evening: producing unexpectedly disciplined music from such informality turned out to be the quintet's great strength. While not an ad hoc grouping, the band — Wellins (tenor), Scott Stroman (trombone), Phil Lee (guitar), Alec Dankworth (bass) and Brian Abrahams (drums) — play together infrequently enough to allow their members to experience what is clearly genuine delighted surprise at each other's playing, but is sufficiently skilled to produce tight, compelling music of extremely high quality. All leaders in their own right — Stroman, indeed, runs the influential jazz course at the Guildhall School of Music — they operate together in what might be termed a "modern mainstream" area inhabited by, say, the Jazztet featuring Benny Golson, Art Farmer and Curtis Fuller, the latter one of Stroman's main influences.

Wellins-Stroman Quintet
Vortex, N16

It was with a Benny Golson tune, "Five Spot After Dark", that the quintet began their set. Although the format — head, round of solos, brief frontline collective improvisation, head — was conventional enough, all five men produced original and personal solos within it. Wellins in particular finding an unexpected but satisfying route through the tune's changes, and imbuing all he played with an affecting, bruised lyricism. Like Wellins, Stroman is adept at producing the unpredictable but fitting solo comment, and on his own Ellington-inspired "Sweet Talk", a quarter of a four-part suite dedicated to influential big bands, he combined the romanticism of a Lawrence Brown with the idiosyncrasy of a Jimmy Knepper without a hint of contrivance.

Although the frontline players all shone — Lee, too, turned in a wonderfully inventive but considered performance — this was a group success, Dankworth and Abrahams discreetly propulsive in support yet assertive when needed. The gig was a triumphant vindication of Wellins's famous assertion that jazz is "grown-up music".

CHRIS PARKER



Marc Quinn's *Frog*, the North American *Rana sylvatica*, which freezes in winter and thaws in spring

Making a present from the past

Twelve artists are inspired by the British Museum's Egyptian collection. **Guy Walters** on 'Time Machine'

The fragment of a huge bronze head lies on the lawn outside the British Museum. Some Italian children are chasing pigeons around it, while a gaggle of Japanese attempt to take photographs of themselves next to it. A couple of very English-looking drunks sit on a nearby bench, and on the other side of the car park a *Big Issue* vendor is making a small income.

The head, which is black and ten feet high, is magnificent in its stillness, its blank eyes constantly monitoring the goings-on of the random assembly. Its mouth carries the pucker of a faintly contemptuous smile. The piece, by Igor Mitoraj, is called *Moonlight* and is based on an engraving of a colossal head found near the ruins of Heliopolis in Egypt.

The work is part of the British Museum's "Time Machine: Ancient Egypt and Contemporary Art" exhibition, which displays contemporary works by 12 artists inspired or influenced by the museum's Egyptian collections. Among the 5,000-year-old sculptures can be found paintings, photographs and installation pieces.

The exhibition is not intended to be a glib juxtaposition of the ancient and modern, but an exploration of dialogue and harmony between them. As James Putnam, curator of "Time Machine", explains: "The artists invited to participate in the exhibition are those who, it was felt, would explore the concept in a more thematic and evocative way." That's putting it mildly.

Marc Quinn, who earned notoriety for *Self*, a cast of his head in his frozen blood, is now showing *Frog*, which is just as it sounds. Refrigeration is Quinn's game again, and here we have a transparent head containing a frozen *Rana sylvatica*, the North American wood frog which freezes during the winter and thaws in spring. This means that Quinn's frog is actually alive — one step beyond Damian Hirst's oh-so-dead lamb.

Frog is not something that you might find in, say, your local Iceland, but in Ancient Egypt the frog was regarded as a deity associated with birth — hence *Frog*'s place among the ancients. Although Quinn describes his sculpture as "an evolutionary bungee jump", it is more of an artistic fast one.

Rosetta Stone Bar Code by David Hiscock goes some way towards fulfilling the exhibition's aims. Hiscock's etched zinc plate shows the hieroglyphs from Rosetta mutated into a modern barcode. Hiscock claims that the barcode symbol has "no direct meaning, unlike the true hieroglyph, which can be a pictogram or a symbol for something. A barcode is merely a symbol that stands for a number."

Perhaps the etcher's thinking is slightly muddled — to a semiotician a bar code is just as valid as a hieroglyph. After all, a number is "something": it does have direct meaning. Nevertheless, the work is effective because it engages ancient and contemporary in conversation, out of which arises harmony when one appreciates that the ancient Egyptians' written systems of communication seem as complex as ours are now.

However, there is one piece that perfectly fulfils the aims of "Time Machine". It is not the product of today, but a piece of granite from the 12th Dynasty, about 1800 BC. It is a roughly carved sculpture of an "official". When one looks closely at the features, they become very familiar: you can discern a certain thinness of lip, a narrowness of eyes, and a bulge of stomach.

Some things never change.

● Time Machine *runs at the British Museum (071-636 1555) until February 26, 1995*

Slav in the boulevard

John Russell Taylor looks at Sergei Chepik's recent paintings

Sergei Chepik is far from the first — and presumably far from the last — Russian artist to find a home-from-home in Paris. The first thing to strike one about his recent paintings on show at Roy Miles is how obsessed with Paris they seem to be. The second is how utterly un-French they are.

The Ecole de Paris has always opened its arms wide to the most extravagant variety of foreign talent: it is enough that they want to live and work in Paris. In this Chepik runs true to form. The Paris of his paintings is definitely Paris, but beyond that it is clearly the City.

A city quite possibly of dreadful night: there is nearly always an element of nightmare in Chepik's work, and even when he breaks out of his habitual blue/grey tonality to peer into strip clubs or prize fights, the hectic reds carry a sulphurous whiff of hellfire.

Though Chepik's vistas of rooftops and gargoyles would make a fit setting for the *Hunchback of Nôtre Dame*, they are like no illustration of Victor Hugo that any Frenchman might devise. It is the Kremlin bells which are faintly ringing, not those of Nôtre Dame. And in fact in many of Chepik's large allegorical compositions, the topographical references may be French, but the dramatis personae are unmistakably Russian: clowns from the Russian circus (the clown indeed is a frequent mask for Chepik himself), strange-winged, chicken-legged creatures from Russian folk tale, gods and devils, saints and fools imbued with the Slavonic soul.

Oddly enough, in this London show there is one artist who frequently springs to mind. In all probability Chepik has never heard of him. But the drawings of raggedy-haired boys with huge eyes look as though they might have stepped straight out of Gormenghast, and the image of Mervyn Peake's Ancient Mariner hovers disconcertingly close to the hunched figure which dominates *The Foreign Towns (Loneliness)* and to the ghostly rigging in the background.

Chepik is clearly one of the best completely traditional painters now working. He is a superb technician with an instantly recognisable personal mark. He is one of those artists who create their own world and carry it round with them, living in it like a snail in its shell. He is surely not a political artist, though inevitably politics has shaped his life.

The most ambitious painting in the show is entitled *Red Square (The Time of Troubles)*. Obviously something disturbing is going on, but it is a something which would make more sense to Bosch than to Leon Golub. The lord of misrule is abroad, but then when in human history has he not been only a breath away?

Chepik's sense of the precariousness of things is universal rather than particular, and so strikes a chord in everyone.

● Sergei Chepik *is at the Roy Miles Gallery, 39 Bruton Street, London W1 (071-495-4747) until December 21.*



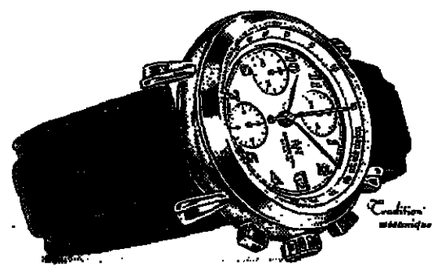
Chepik's *Trocadero*, 1993: his settings may be French, but his figures are often imbued with the Slavonic soul

ARTS BRIEFING

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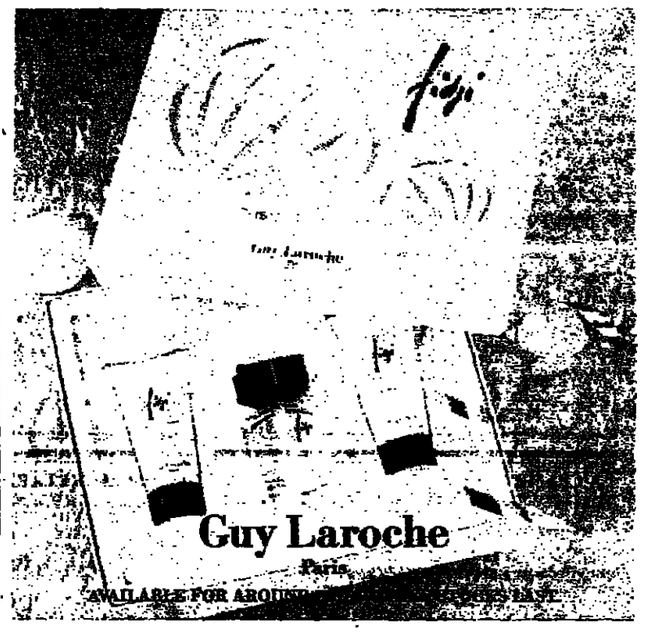
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SDAY DECEMBER 14 1994

nners?

Separate assessments in notice

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Le Rififi Ltd

Before Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Millett and Sir Ralph Gibson

[Reasons December 7]

Where a taxpayer was assessed for value-added tax covering a number of prescribed accounting periods, it was open to the VAT tribunal to find as a fact that there was a separate assessment for each period and not a global assessment for all the periods.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment giving reasons for allowing on November 14 an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise against the dismissal by Mr Justice Leonard (*The Times* August 2, 1993) of an appeal against a decision of the VAT tribunal in favour of the taxpayer, Le Rififi Ltd.

Mr Nigel Pleming, QC and Mr Robert Jay for the commissioners; Mr Edward Cohen for the taxpayer.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE said that the taxpayer carried on the business of a members' club and was registered for VAT. An officer of Customs and Excise visited the taxpayer's premises on two occasions in 1989 and inspected the taxpayer's records and accounts.

From the information obtained it appeared to the commissioners that the returns made by the taxpayer for the purposes of VAT were incorrect in that an examination of the records cast doubts on the accuracy of the declared gross takings. Accordingly on August 8, 1989 the commissioners served on the taxpayer a notice in Form VAT 191.

The notice ran to three pages and contained 24 lines. Each line, save the last, represented a three-month period. The first period started on May 1, 1983, the last (two-month) period ended on March 31, 1989.

The total amounts shown on the three pages were respectively £60,003.10, £53,404.98 and £18,895.60, amounting to £132,303.68 in all, although that overall total did not appear on any part of the notice.

Consequent upon negotiations between the commissioners and the taxpayer that was reduced to £15,840.28, which was the amount in issue when the taxpayer's appeal came before the tribunal.

At the commencement of the hearing before the tribunal counsel for the taxpayer took the preliminary point that the whole assessment contained in the notice was null and void because it was made more than six years after the end of the first prescribed accounting period included in a global assessment of £132,303.68.

That preliminary point was accepted by the tribunal and the judge and it was the issue on the appeal. It depended on the answer to the question: was the notice a single global assessment? The power of the commissioners to assess VAT due was, at the relevant date, contained in paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 7 to the Value Added Tax Act 1983.

Paragraph 4(3) of Schedule 7 provided: "Where a person is assessed under [sub-paragraph] (1) … in respect of the same prescribed accounting period the assessments may be combined and notified to him as one assessment."

"Prescribed accounting period" was defined by section 48(1) of the 1983 Act by reference to section 14(1) of the Act which provided: "A taxable person shall, in respect of supplies made by him, account for and pay tax by reference to such periods (in this Act referred to as 'prescribed accounting periods'), at such time and in such manner as may be determined…"

Section 22 of the Finance Act 1985 provided: "(1) … an assessment — (a) under any provision of paragraph 4 of Schedule 7 to the [1983] Act … shall not be made more than six years after the end of the prescribed accounting period…"

It was permissible for the commissioners to make a single or "global" assessment which covered more than one accounting period. In practice that might be necessary when it was impossible or impracticable for the commissioners to identify the specific accounting period or periods for which the tax claimed was due.

In such a case the six-year time limit prescribed by section 22(1) of the 1985 Act ran from the end of the first prescribed accounting period included in that assessment.

The power of the commissioners to make a global assessment was, however, not confined to such cases. So it was a question of fact in any case whether there had been one global assessment or a number of assessments notified together.

It was clear that Form VAT 191 was intended to be used for either a single assessment or a number of assessments. His Lordship was left in no doubt that the notice embraced 24 assessments for the 24 accounting periods listed in the notice.

The tribunal and the judge reached the conclusion that the notice contained a single global assessment because they considered that they were bound by the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Don Pasquale v Customs and Excise Commissioners* (*The Times* June 14, 1990; [1990] STC 556). That case was on its facts indistinguishable from the present.

Fortunately, their Lordships were not bound by the doctrine of precedent to follow the *Don Pasquale* decision.

That doctrine required them only to follow a decision of the Court of Appeal, or, for that matter, the House of Lords, if the decision raised a question of principle: see *Ashville Investments v Elmer Ltd* ([1989] QB 488, 494) and *Hack v London Provident Building Society* ((1883) 23 Ch D 103, 111).

Giving the decision in *Don Pasquale* the full persuasive effect to which it was entitled, his Lordship remained unpersuaded that the notice could be interpreted as constituting a single global assessment.

LORD JUSTICE MILLETT, agreeing, said there was a considerable body of authority for the proposition that, unless it laid down a general principle of construction, a previous decision on the meaning of an expression in a document was not binding on the court when construing a different document in a later case even if the language of the two documents was identical.

The rule was different where the instrument to be construed was a statute or regulation or a prescribed form. In such cases the earlier decision was authority for the meaning of the instrument and was binding on a court which was called on to construe the same instrument in a later case.

The same was probably true of standard forms of contract or standard contractual terms. Form VAT 191 was none of those things.

Sir Ralph Gibson delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Customs and Excise; Tarlo Lyons.

Power to amend indictment

Regina v Wells

Before Lord Justice Kennedy, Mr Justice Kay and Mr Justice Mitchell

[Judgment December 1]

Once an indictment was in existence, the power to amend it was that contained in the Indictments Act 1915 and rules made thereunder.

The power to amend was not affected by the restriction on preferring indictments contained in section 2(2) of the Administration of Justice 1933, which was concerned only with the question of what offences might be included in the bill of indictment when it was preferred.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held, in a reserved judgment, dismissing an appeal by Derek Wells against a decision of Mr Recorder Katkhuda on July 19, 1993, at Isleworth Crown Court, to give leave for an indictment against him to be amended by adding five counts of handling stolen goods.

Section 2 of the 1933 Act provides: "(2) Subject as hereinafter provided no bill of indictment charging any person with an indictable offence shall be preferred unless either — (a) the person charged has been committed for trial for the offence; or … (b) the bill is preferred by the direction or with the consent of a judge of the High Court … Provided that — (i) where the person charged has been committed for trial, the bill of indictment against him may include, either in substitution for, or in addition to, counts charging the offence for which he was committed, any counts founded on fact or evidence disclosed in any examination or deposition … being counts which may lawfully be joined in the same indictment."

el2 Mr Thomas Kark, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Anthony Heaton Armstrong for the Crown.

el4 MR JUSTICE KAY, giving the judgment of the court, said that, following previous complications, the Crown applied for leave to prefer a voluntary bill of indictment against the appellant. The bill was endorsed by a High Court judge and became an indictment.

Shortly before the hearing counsel for the Crown learnt of its contents, which were not in accordance with the advice he had given. He informed counsel for the appellant that he would be applying to amend the new indictment at the hearing.

Counsel for the appellant indicated that he would be objecting to the bill of indictment on the ground that it charged the appellant with a number of identifiable handling offences in one rolled up count contrary to the decision of the Court of Appeal in *R v Smythe* ((1980) 72 Cr App Rep 8) and that he would oppose any application to amend it.

The recorder, after lengthy argument, gave leave for the indictment to be amended by adding five counts of handling stolen goods. The appellant pleaded guilty to the amended indictment but not guilty to the count as originally included in the new indictment.

The sole ground of appeal was that the recorder had no power to grant leave for the new indictment to be amended. The argument advanced for the appellant was that in exercising the power to order amendment of an indictment pursuant to section 5 of the 1915 Act the court was limited by the need to observe the provisions of section 2(1) of the 1933 Act.

It was not possible, it was suggested, to add additional counts unless the addition of those counts came within the provisions of that section. In the case of an indictment based upon a committal, counts might be added that were disclosed in the depositions, but, it was contended, since there was no corresponding provision for a bill of indictment preferred with the consent of a High Court judge, no count could be added.

In their Lordships' judgment, that was based on a false premise. Section 2(2) of the 1933 Act was not in any way concerned with any question of amendment of an indictment, it was concerned only with the question of what offences could be included in the bill of indictment when it was preferred.

If any of the alternative courses listed in that section had been followed, no objection could be taken to the inclusion of those offences in the indictment. Since the section imposed no limitation, by reference to the offences included or otherwise, upon the power of a High Court judge to consent to preferment, it was unnecessary for the section to contain any provision of the kind made for a bill of indictment consequent upon committal proceedings.

The question of amendment of an indictment only arose at a later stage once the bill of indictment had been signed and became an indictment. The power to amend was the power pursuant to section 5 of the 1915 Act and was the same whatever the course taken by which the indictment came into existence.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, London.

No damages for property owner

Regina v Lambeth London Borough Council, Ex parte Sarkbrook Ltd

Before Mr Justice Jowitt

[Judgment December 1]

A property owner could not recover damages for losses incurred as a result of a housing authority's failure to serve a notice to quit pursuant to section 270 of the Housing Act 1985 on the sitting tenant of a property which was subject to a demolition order.

Mr Justice Jowitt so held in the Queen's Bench Division, granting the applicants, Sarkbrook Ltd, a declaration that Lambeth London Borough Council had failed to comply with its duty to serve a notice pursuant to section 270 of the 1985 Act on a tenant in a property belonging to the applicants which was subject to a demolition order.

The applicants' claim for damages was refused.

Section 270 of the 1985 Act provides: "(1) Where a demolition order has become operative, the local housing authority shall serve on the occupier of any building … to which the order relates a notice — … (c) requiring him to quit the building…"

Mr David Daly for the applicants; Mr Michael Magloire for the council.

MR JUSTICE JOWITT said that the applicants had bought a house, which was subject to a demolition order, intending to demolish it and build a block of flats.

The service of a section 270 notice by the housing authority would have overridden any rights of security that the sitting tenant might have had and would have enabled the applicants to obtain possession. However, the housing authority had failed to serve the notice and then had served a notice which was defective.

The applicants had decided to buy the sitting tenant off. They complained that they had lost the money paid to the tenant and the interest on the purchase money while their investment was standing idle and they claimed damages from the authority.

The claim was disputed by the authority who said that a breach of section 270 carried with it no right as far the applicants were concerned to damages.

His Lordship noted that an authority could not, of its own volition, withdraw a demolition order once it had become operative.

However, by virtue of section 274(1)(b), the authority could hold its hand if anyone in a position to make the property fit for human habitation proposed to do so and the authority agreed. Once the work had been carried out properly the authority had to revoke the order.

Therefore, it seemed that the coming into effect of a demolition order did not give the landlord an unqualified right to possession or to expect to get possession of a property.

Nothing in the 1985 Act had led his Lordship to conclude that section 270 conferred on a landlord any right to damages if a housing authority was in breach of its duty under that section. In his Lordship's judgment, the purpose of section 270 was solely to facilitate the demolition of housing which was unfit for human habitation.

Solicitors: Parker Arrenberg Dawson & Cobb, Catford; Mr David Tatlow, Brixton.

Assessing risk of prejudice to litigation

Regina v Chairman of the Regulatory Board of Lloyd's Ltd, Ex parte Macmillan and Another

Before Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny

[Judgment November 25]

Where a loss review was concurrent with litigation, the court should ascertain on a balance of probability whether there was a sufficient risk of prejudice to a party to the litigation to justify the exercise of discretion to order the loss review to be stayed until the end of the trial at first instance.

However, as the purpose of a loss review was not disciplinary but was to track down reasons for losses and where the purpose of litigation was to establish negligence or breach of statutory duty and recover damages, there was no total overlap of issues to merit the sparing exercise of the court's power to intervene.

Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny so stated in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application for judicial review by Roderick Macmillan and Stuart Thompson of a decision of the chairman of the regulatory board of Lloyd's of London made on June 10, 1994 on behalf of the Council of Lloyd's refusing to suspend the loss review of syndicate 80 of which Mr Macmillan was the former principal underwriter and syndicate 843 of which Mr Thompson was a former underwriter.

Mr Ian Hunter, QC and Mr David Joseph for the applicants; Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Steven Kovats for Lloyd's.

MR JUSTICE MACPHERSON said that in each case a balancing exercise had to be performed. In some cases it might be in order for the loss review to continue, in others where there was prejudice it should not.

His Lordship was unable to give more general help other than to point to the relevant principles. The principles to be applied came from a series of Court of Appeal cases.

The most recent was *R v Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, Ex parte Brindle* (*The Times* January 12) but the present case was not parallel with *Ex parte Brindle*.

A loss review was not itself disciplinary. Its purpose was to track down the reasons for losses and to reveal the facts. The purpose of litigation was to establish negligence or breach of statutory duty and to recover damages. There was therefore no virtual eclipse of issues.

Many names were interested in the loss review and were not interested in litigation and there were other agents involved in litigation and not in the loss review.

The advanced stage of the loss review and the evidence suggested that there was considerable public interest to conclude it because the non-litigating names and Lloyd's were entitled to see it ended.

In the present case there were as yet no points of claim, no detailed pleadings. The loss review would surely end long before litigation was prepared for court and probably before any express allegations had been put against the defendants.

Where the clash of proceedings was between litigation and disciplinary proceedings the fact that the conclusions did not match might lead to unfairness. But that was not so in the present situation.

Solicitors: Holman Fenwick & Willan; Mr Richard Prior.

Libel auction ban

Kiam v Neil and Another

The defendant in a libel action could not put before the jury specific figures of money offered to the plaintiff in open pre-trial correspondence to mitigate the damages the jury might award.

The defendant could not require the plaintiff to make a statement in open court and Order 82, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court gave the defendant no opportunity to make such a statement before the action reached settlement.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Morritt) so held on October 19 dismissing an application by Mr Andrew Neil and Times Newspapers Ltd for leave to appeal against a ruling of Mr Justice Hidden on October 17 that a specific figure offered by way of damages in open correspondence to Victor Kiam could not be given to the jury hearing his action for libel against the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE LEGGATT said that the defendants could not be permitted to disclose the amount of their offer, otherwise a defendant could always make an offer and if it was refused reveal the amount while avoiding submissions on the merits of the sum offered.

That would circumvent all the rules of practice which prohibited counsel from canvassing specific figures with the jury in order to avoid an "auction".

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LEGAL NOTICES

CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION NOTICE OF INTENDED DIVIDEND NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF ACSO MANAGEMENT SERVICES LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION) The liquidators of ACSO Management Services Limited give notice under the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that they intend to make an interim dividend to the unsecured creditors of the company within four months of the notice date. Creditors who have not already done so, must send details in writing of any claim against the company to the liquidators Richard Claude Boys-Stones and John Francis Soden of Price Waterhouse at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by Tuesday 3 February 1995 which is the last day for submitting claims. A creditor who does not make a claim by that date will not be included in the proposed interim distribution. Date 20 December 1994 RC Boys Stones Joint Liquidator

CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION NOTICE OF INTENDED DIVIDEND NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF ATLANTIC REALISATIONS NO 3 LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION) The liquidators of Atlantic Realisations No 3 Limited give notice under the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that they intend to make an interim dividend to the unsecured creditors of the company within four months of the notice date. Creditors who have not already done so, must send details in writing of any claim against the company to the liquidators Richard Claude Boys-Stones and John Francis Soden of Price Waterhouse at No1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by Tuesday 3 February 1995 which is the last day for submitting claims. A creditor who does not make a claim by that date will not be included in the interim distribution. Date 20 December 1994 RC Boys Stones Joint Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986 J. & E. REHILL LIMITED (In Liquidation) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the Members and Creditors on the 6th December 1994. M.R. DORRINGTON, Liquidator.

CREDITORS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION NOTICE OF INTENDED DIVIDEND NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF ATLANTIC SYSTEMS LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION) The liquidators of Atlantic Systems Limited give notice under the provisions of Rule 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that they intend to make an interim dividend to the unsecured creditors of the company within four months of the notice date. Creditors who have not already done so, must send details in writing of any claim against the company to the liquidators Richard Claude Boys-Stones and John Francis Soden of Price Waterhouse at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by Tuesday 3 February 1995 which is the last day for submitting claims. A creditor who does not make a claim by that date will not be included in the proposed interim distribution. Date 20 December 1994 RC Boys Stones Joint Liquidator

FOOTPRINTS DESIGN LIMITED IN RECEIVERSHIP Registered Number: 2936894. Former Company Name: Footprints UK Limited. Trading Name: Footprints. Nature of Business: Leisure industry designers and publishers of cartography. Trade Classification: 10. Date of appointment of administrative receiver(s): 8th December 1994. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s): Lloyds Bank Plc. M J C Oldham and P S Dunn Joint Administrative Receivers (Office Holder Numbers: 7817 and 2368) of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF

Form 3.1A Rule 3.2 Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver Dick Clayton Limited Registered Number 975634 Trading Name Dick Clayton Ltd Nature of Business GENERAL CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION Date of appointment of administrative receivers 9.12.94 Name of person appointing the administrative receivers NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK PLC D.W WALLACE & R.H. OLDFIELD Joint Administrative Receivers (Office Holder nos 6261 & 2616) Address 20 Farringdon Street London EC4A 4PP

Melofreight Warehousing Limited NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 22nd December 1994 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above named company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. DATED THIS 7th December 1994 P.C.Blackmore - Director

No. 006810 of 1994 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION IN THE MATTER OF CHRISTIANI & NIELSON LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 30th November, 1994 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above named company from £12,000,000 to £7,000,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 1st December, 1994. DATED the 8th day December, 1994 Thomas Cooper & Stibbard 52 Leadenhall Street London EC3A 2DJ Ref: ABW/NHG Solicitors for the above named Company

NO. 00 7109 of 1994 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION In the matter of BABCOCK INTERNATIONAL LIMITED and In the matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 23rd November 1994 confirming the reduction of Capital of the above-named Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 8th December 1994. Dated this 14th day of December 1994 Hammond Suddards Trinity Court 16 John Dalton Street Manchester. M60 8HS (ref: JBLB)

PUBLIC NOTICES

BRADLEY, ERIC ROBINSON BRADLEY late of Luton, Bedfordshire died there on 14 April 1944 (Estate about £15,000)

CLOWES nee WILDER, MARJORIE GRACE CLOWES nee WILDER Widow late of Carshalton, Surrey died at Merton, London SW20 on 7 June 1994 (Estate about £100,000)

COOPER, ROY COUNDEN COOPER late of Guildford, Surrey died there on 2 September 1994 (Estate about £15,000)

CRIDLAND, JOHN CRIDLAND late of HOLLOWAY, LONDON N7 died there on 12 July 1993 (Estate about £8,000)

GASKELL, FRANK GASKELL late of Stockport, Manchester died at Newton Heath, Manchester on 27 October 1993 (Estate about £64,000)

HARRISON, WILLIAM HARRISON late of Stannington, Northumberland, died there on 26 November 1991 (Estate about £6,000)

JACKSON, HENRY LOUIS JACKSON late of Penge, London SE20 died there on 18 May 1994 (Estate about £6,000)

MURPHY, PATRICK BERNARD MURPHY late of Stanmore, Middlesex died at Wapping, London E.1. on 24 December 1993 (Estate about £20,000)

WRIGHT, GERALD ROBERT KINROSS WRIGHT late of Victoria, London SW1, died at West Smithfield, London EC1 on October 1992 (Estate about £17,000)

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE 071-782 7344 OR FAX: 071-782 7827

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

Ilson Disney

adviser

Play Scrooge and snap up a cracker

There are bargains to be had by house-hunting over the festive season, says Rachel Kelly

Christmas is coming and the market is getting flat. Who would battle with buying and selling bricks and mortar when there are stockings to be filled, presents to be wrapped and turkeys to be basted? The property market traditionally adheres to the seasons, and Christmas is not one of them. There are two busy periods: spring and the autumn.

But the rules are being rewritten after a four-year slump and a confusing recovery — both of which have defied convention. Pockets of the market and certain types of movers are expected to be out in force. Some agents are planning for a busy festive season after all.

Last year, Strutt & Parker, the agent in upmarket country houses, exchanged contracts on more properties in December than in any other month, defying all seasonal expectations of a lull in the market.

Lassmans, the London agent, has concluded some of its best sales over the period, including the sale of The Holme in Regent's Park and a large house in Eaton Square.

James Laing, joint managing director of Strutt & Parker, says: "The traditional selling season of March to October appears to have disappeared. The current level of interest in properties in some of our offices, especially in Salisbury and Harrogate, looks as if this will be repeated this year."

Mr Laing attributes the switch in seasonal patterns to the fact that people are moving now because they have to through circumstances, rather than because they are trading up.

"Now that the market is driven by people's changing lifestyles, be that a change of a job, or the fact of retirement, that could as well come in December or January as any other time of year. When people were moving just to make money, they didn't move over Christmas as the choice was theirs."

Anthony Lassman says the change can also be attributed to the number of overseas buyers who are in London Christmas shopping or visiting relatives. "These people have money, are in good festive humour and can be more easily encouraged to buy," he says.

It is a better time to buy than to sell. Sellers have to contend with the inevitable slowdown in the number of viewers as not all would-be buyers can be dragged away from the fireside and the television over the festive season. And few vendors relish the inevitable extra tidying-up demanded by the fact that children are home for the Christmas holidays.

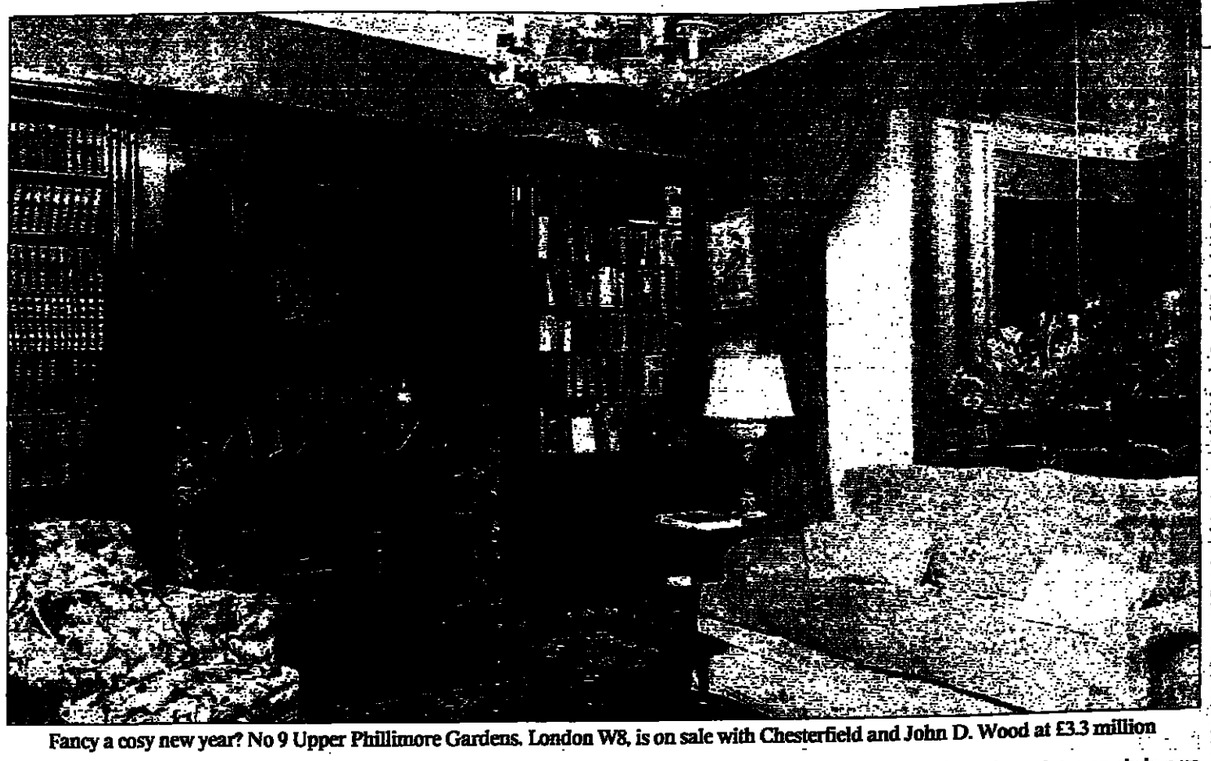
But determined buyers can snap-up left-over bargains. Agents are at their disposal as there are fewer buyers around generally. Stock from the autumn is now looking tired and many a seller would like the peace of mind of knowing at last that the house is sold and that they can enjoy Christmas. Thus softened, vendors begin to be more flexible on price.

"Very often the deals made immediately before and after Christmas and the new year represent some of the best opportunities of the year," says Simon Agace from Winkworth. "There are very good bargains on offer for the few buyers who are looking, because sellers who have missed out on the busy November market or whose sales have fallen through are keen to sell."

Mr Lassman says: "It is a chance to buy at last year's prices. Properties unsold at the end of the year will quite probably be withdrawn, redecorated and remarketed at a higher price in the spring." Sara Graybow, from Cluttons London Residential, adds: "The festive period is one of the few times when partners holiday together but do not necessarily go away."

The disadvantage for buyers is the lack of choice. Tim Barker, of Cluttons's Knightsbridge office, says: "There is a distinct drop in the number of properties coming up for sale at the moment."

Supply improves in January. The psychology of a new year, a new house, remains strong, says Mark Drysdale of the London agents Foxtons. "If potential sellers felt they needed a little more space before December 25 because the children were getting bigger and granny needed her own bathroom, they will be desperate by January."



Fancy a cosy new year? No 9 Upper Phillimore Gardens, London W8, is on sale with Chesterfield and John D. Wood at £3.3 million

Families who have suffered in cramped London houses often decide to sell them after Christmas, says Linda Beaney of Beaney Pearce. "Going to look at a property over the holiday is sometimes an excuse by some members of the family to get out and look at what they can buy next year as they vow never to have another Christmas in the same house again."

Sellers may enjoy an unexpected spurt in the number of viewers. Expatriates home for Christmas will use the holiday to find a pied-à-terre, an investment for themselves or their children, says John D. Wood. And buyers in the retirement sector in particular are out in force in January, says Ronald Clarkson of Park Healthcare, a specialist retirement developer. "Families spend time together and realise that elderly relatives may find another winter on their own too much to cope with," he says.

In the country, choice remains limited until the new year. "We have very few new houses coming onto the market in the run-up to Christmas, but all our offices have new instructions for January and February," Mr Laing says. Those prepared to have strangers viewing their property over the holiday period could benefit from the spirit of goodwill. Despite country houses often looking their worst in winter, a seasonal fall of snow can add that spot of charm to gardens that clinches the final deal.





Christmas card appeal: the Thatch Cottage, Chawton, Hampshire (John D. Wood, £285,000) and, right, The Grange at Milford, Surrey (Curchods, £355,000)

For all the inevitable optimism of agents, would-be movers over Yuletide will have to contend with the slowing down in all the other professions which are necessary for a successful sale or purchase. Lawyers, councils, building societies and banks all close, thus halting the preparation of mortgage documents, searches and contracts.

However, for those who have managed to complete before Christmas Day, there is the opportunity to move after Boxing Day. Anthony Ward-Thomas, of Ward-Thomas removals, says: "It is a very good time because the roads are clear for once. Everyone is in a festive mood and if anything, the clients tend to be much more relaxed."

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Hendry attacks television trivialisation

FROM PHIL YATES IN ANTWERP

STEPHEN HENDRY reached the quarter-finals of the European Open here in Belgium yesterday and then used his post-match press conference to criticise the BBC for the minimal coverage of snooker in the *Sports Review of the Year* programme on Sunday.

Hendry, who continued the defence of his title with a 5-3 victory over Tony Drago, of Malta, flew back to London on Sunday, after winning his first-round match, to honour an invitation to the annual awards show.

However, Hendry returned to Belgium appalled by snooker being shunted into a montage of minority sports which included model flying, synchronised swimming, archery and American pool.

"I was disappointed but I wasn't surprised," Hendry, whose dramatic 18-17 victory over Jimmy White in the final of the world championship this year attracted a television audience of 13.4 million, said.

"After the final Jimmy and I gave the BBC, with all of those millions watching, they could have at least given the game just a few minutes' coverage." Hendry, who on the advice of Ian Doyle, his manager, boycotted the event three years ago, said.

Doyle was incensed by the treatment of snooker. "It was outrageous," Doyle said. "Do these people take notice of what their viewers enjoy. Stephen will not be attending the programme in the future unless things change. The whole thing really frustrates me."

Hendry was not at his most fluent against Drago, a highest break of only 64 bearing testimony to that, but he battled hard and completed victory with a 49 clearance to black after Drago, 57-14 ahead, had gone in off a safety shot with three reds remaining in the eighth frame. Hendry next meets Darren Morgan or Willie Thorne.

Ronnie O'Sullivan, beaten 9-5 by Hendry in the final here last year, also progressed, with a 5-3 win over Alan McManus after trailing 3-2. At that point, McManus appeared the more solid of the two, but the winner of the United Kingdom and British Open last season then struck the kind of purple patch that enabled him to recover from the loss of the first two frames to beat McManus 5-2 in the first round of the Regal Masters three months ago.

Breaks of 111 and 66 pushed O'Sullivan into a 4-3 lead, and he sealed McManus's fate by nervelessly clearing green to black in the following frame.

Ken Doherty, fast developing into one of the circuit's most consistent performers, advanced by beating Dean Reynolds 5-2. The highlight of Doherty's display was the compilation of a 105 break — his fourteenth century of the season.

However, it was another miserable afternoon for James Wattana, of Thailand. Wattana, who has begun the 1994-95 campaign playing well below his peak, lost 5-3 to Nigel Bond despite a run of 121, the higest break of the event's final phase so far, in the second frame.

It was a much-needed victory for Bond, an Englishman whose place in the top 16 next season appeared to be in jeopardy as a result of his failure to negotiate the opening round in both the Skoda grand prix and the United Kingdom championship.

Terry Griffiths, the 1979 world champion, was last night attempting to defeat Steve Davis, a winner of the world title six times between 1981 and 1989, for only the sixth time in 36 tournament meetings.

RESULTS: Second round: K Doherty (Ire) bt D Reynolds (Eng) 5-2; S Hendry (Scot) bt A Drago (Malta) 5-3; R O'Sullivan (Eng) bt A McManus (Scot) 5-3; N Bond (Eng) bt J Wattana (Thai) 5-3.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Schumacher tests engine with Ligier

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER, the Formula One motor racing world drivers' champion, will test drive for Benetton's sister team and rivals, Ligier, at Estoril on Wednesday. He will use the test at the Portuguese track as an opportunity to evalute for the first time the Renault V10 engine, which will be powering his Benetton car in 1995.

Flavio Briatore, the Benetton managing director, who also owns Ligier, said: "The idea came to me as a unique mutually-beneficial exercise for both teams and sponsors alike. It gives Michael an opportunity to experience the power and handling characteristics of the Renault engine and Ligier a chance to receive advice from the current world champion in developing their 1995 car."

Miami reach play-offs

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Dan Marino completed two touchdown passes and ran for another score as the Miami Dolphins beat the Kansas City Chiefs 45-28 and clinched a National Football League play-off place. The Dolphins, the fifth team to qualify for the tournament that leads to the Super Bowl, can win the American Football Conference East division with one more victory.

Stormy waters

YACHTING: Another gale in the Southern Ocean has pushed Christophe Auguin, of France, and David Adams, of Australia, within 2,000 miles of Sydney in the BOC Challenge solo round the world race, but caused problems for their rivals. Giovanni Soldini, of Italy, reported: "It's still blowing like stink — about 50 knots. No wind instruments, snow instead of rain. Great place for the mother-in-law."

Champion's farewell

EQUESTRIANISM: Everest Milton, the most successful horse in the history of show jumping, with career winnings of more than £1.25 million, is to be officially retired at the Olympia championships which start tomorrow. The 17-year-old grey gelding, owned by Tom and Doreen Bradley, will not be competing, but will make farewell appearances with John Whitaker, his rider, at each performance.

Oliver makes her mark

BOWLS: Lisa Oliver, the Welsh junior women's outdoor singles champion, from Llanelli, became the youngest woman to be selected to play for Wales in the home international series yesterday. Oliver, who was 17 in July, will represent Wales next March and is expected play lead for her mother, Stella, who will be making her sixteenth successive appearance for her country.

Monarchs take pick

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Seven Britons chosen from hundreds of trialists will join London Monarchs when they kick off against Frankfurt Galaxy in the World League of American Football on April 8. Gerry Anderson, Rowelle Blenman, Stephen Hutchinson and Allan Taitt are veterans of London Olympians; the others are Lewis Capes, Robert Flickinger and Victor Ebubedike.



Arthurton sweeps Kapoor to the boundary during the West Indies dash for runs on the penultimate day of the final Test. Photograph: Sunil Malhotra

Lara enables Walsh to gamble

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

WEST Indies cricketers threw caution to the winds in Chandigarh yesterday in an attempt to win the final Test with India and so square the series at 1-1.

Courtney Walsh made a challenging declaration at 301 for three, and India, needing 358 to win, stuttered to 37 for one by the close. Navjot Sidhu was dismissed cheaply and Manoj Prabhakar, his fellow opener and a century-maker in the first innings, ended the day in hospital.

Kenny Benjamin made the breakthrough Walsh had hoped for when he trapped Sidhu leg-before for 11 with the score at 17, minutes after Prabhakar had been led from the field with blood pouring from his nose after being struck by a ball from Walsh. He later had stitches inserted in the wound and may take no further part in the match.

Javagal Srinath and Venkatapathy Raju, the Indian last-wicket pair who had put on 56 runs on Monday, took their partnership to 64 before Raju was caught behind off Benjamin. Thanks to their efforts, the West Indies lead was restricted to 56 and valuable time used up.

Walsh showed his hand immediately by opening with Brian Lara in place of Stuart Williams, and the left-hander responded by playing a sparkling innings of 91 from 104 balls — his highest Test score since his record 375 against England last winter. He put on 85 for the first wicket with Phil Simmons, 41 coming from the first four overs.

Nothing looked more certain that he would complete a century, and even when he edged a catch behind, Srinivas Venkataraghavan, the Indian umpire, made no move to give him out. But Lara began walking towards the pavilion without looking at the official and Venkataraghavan eventually raised a finger.

Jimmy Adams, who scored an unbeaten 174 in the first innings, and Keith Arthurton kept the runs flowing. They put on 145 for the fourth wicket to pave the way for a declaration 55 minutes into the final session. Adams, who finished with 78, scored mainly in ones and twos and struck only two boundaries, but nevertheless got his runs from 84 balls. Arthurton's innings of 70 included sixes off Raju and Aashish Kapoor, the off spinner. He also hit four fours while facing 87 deliveries.

SCOREBOARD

WEST INDIES: First innings 443 (J C Adams 174 not out, A C Cummins 50; A Kumble 4-90).

Second Innings

P V Simmons run out	25
B C Lara c Mongia b Raju	91
C L Hooper lbw b Raju	20
J C Adams not out	78
K L T Arthurton not out	70
Extras (b 10, lb 4, nb 3)	17
Total (3 wkts dec)	301

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-85, 2-135, 3-156.

BOWLING: Prabhakar 9-1-34-0; Srinath 20-0-95-0; Kumble 17-0-56-0; Raju 12.3-0-80-2; Kapoor 7-1-32-0; Tendulkar 1-0-10-0.

INDIA: First Innings

M Prabhakar c Murray b Walsh	120
N S Sidhu b Walsh	0
S V Manjrekar lbw b Benjamin	40
S R Tendulkar c Williams b Cuffy	40
*M Azharuddin c Williams b Cummins	27
V G Kambli c Simmons b Benjamin	18
†N R Mongia hit wicket b Cummins	34
A Kapoor c Simmons b Cuffy	15
A Kumble c Hooper b Cuffy	0
J Srinath not out	52
S L V Raju c Murray b Benjamin	15
Extras (b 5, lb 3, w 1, nb 17)	26
Total	387

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-104, 3-168, 4-228, 5-262, 6-265, 7-305, 8-310, 9-323.

BOWLING: Walsh 35-4-89-2; Benjamin 35.3-8-106-3; Cuffy 22-4-80-3; Cummins 18-2-45-2; Hooper 17-1-60-0; Adams 3-1-9-0

Second Innings

M Prabhakar retired hurt	0
N S Sidhu lbw b Benjamin	11
S V Manjrekar not out	14
S R Tendulkar not out	6
Extras (b 4, nb 2)	6
Total (1 wkt)	37

FALL OF WICKET: 1-17.

BOWLING: Walsh 6-4-10-0; Benjamin 7-2-23-1.

Umpires: S Dunn (New Zealand) and S Venkataraghavan (India).

Botham and Border in line for next test

IAN BOTHAM, who has recently hinted that he might have a role to play in the running of an international cricket team, may yet get his wish (Simon Wilde writes). The former England all-rounder is on a shortlist of two to become Sri Lanka's next manager, although it is likely that the other candidate, Allan Border, will win the appointment.

Duleep Mendis, the chairman of the Sri Lanka selectors, has spoken to both men and the response of the former Australian captain was apparently the more enthusiastic. Border retired from Test cricket earlier this year, but continues to play for Queensland. Since retiring from first-class cricket last year, Botham, 39, has confined his links with the game to a lecture tour, on which he has criticised the England administrators.

Elmo Rodrigo Pulle, the sports editor of the *Ceylon Daily News*, said yesterday: "Allan Border has given some encouraging news. He has said that he is available once he finishes the season with Queensland. Unless he's asked to play county cricket, I think he'll come.

"If the choice is between the two, they will probably go for Border because Botham is not a good example." Border is expected to be in further contact with the Sri Lanka board next week.

Sri Lanka have failed to win any of their last 16 Test matches, and the World Cup, which they will jointly host, is little more than a year away.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

FASCINATOR

(b) A head shawl worn by women, either crocheted or made of a soft material.

"Briony stepped out in a pink cloak trimmed with swansdown and a candy-striped fascinator which caught snowflakes that fell from the New York sky."

GELADA

(a) An Ethiopian baboon characterised by a heavy mane in the adult male, and by a tufted tail.

1893, R. Lydekker, *Royal Nat. Hist*: "The spect of the gelada forcibly suggests a large black poodle dog, with an unusually abundant mane."

RED-TOP

(c) One of several pasture grasses.

"The whole yard, where it was shaded from the afternoon sun, was covered with a tall waving crop of red-top and in some places it was up to six feet high."

SACKIE

(a) Any of several small parrots found in northern South America, esp. *Pionites melanocephala*, which has black, blue, and green plumage.

"Sackies kept up a gay twittering throughout the night."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

If 1. Rxe5, then 1, . . . gxf6 causes confusion; but 1. Qg3! g6; 2. Rxa4 wins a piece.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Flachau	0	10	closed	closed	closed	fair	0	10/12
(Lifts will open as soon as there is enough snow)								
Lech	0	20	hard	crusty	closed	sun	-1	11/12
(Reasonably good skiing available; seven lifts open)								
Obergurgl	5	30	fair	varied	closed	fine	3	9/12
(Resort run to Hochgurgl open; six of 21 lifts operating)								
St Anton	0	50	hard	spring	closed	sun	3	11/12
(Some higher lifts open, including Schilgrat)								
FRANCE								
Méribel	0	50	fair	varied	closed	fine	5	9/12
(20cm of snow at 2,000 metres; four pistes open above Mottaret)								
Tignes	30	100	good	crust	fair	fine	2	10/12
(Excellent on upper runs, worn/icy patches lower down)								
Val d'Isère	20	120	good	heavy	icy	fine	-1	10/12
(Generally good skiing; rocky/icy patches on lower runs)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	0	100	good	crusty	closed	sun	4	9/12
(Good skiing above Plan Maison, 2,550 metres)								
Selva	0	10	closed	closed	closed	sun	5	18/11
(Lifts will open as soon as there is enough snow)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	0	30	hard	varied	closed	sun	4	9/12
(Skiing limited to glacier at present; four of 39 lifts open)								
Davos	0	40	fair	varied	closed	fine	-1	9/12
(Open pistes in reasonable condition; 12 of 36 lifts open)								
Verbier	0	80	good	varied	closed	fair	2	9/12
(Surprisingly good skiing on open runs; 12 of 39 lifts open)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art – artificial.

MIDWEEK RENDEZVOUS

MIDWEEK RENDEZVOUS

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE SENT TO:

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LADIES

A divorcee, tall, N/S seeks gentleman, 50-60 approx to appreciate her jokes (my daughter says I'm barmy but lovable) and cooking also prove romance not perquisites of youth. Anyone for skiing? Kent. Please Reply to Box No 2697

A Eurasor New Year break for 40's active intelligent professionals. Reply to Box No 2697

A blonty attractive, bright, slim, stylish, good woman, young 45, N/S. Enjoys life, travel, books, walks and talks. Seeks similar man for true romance. Yorkshire. Reply to Box No 2585

ARE you genuine, caring, romantic, affluent, well-groomed and seriously want a long-term relationship. Are you also seeking what appears impossible - someone to love, laugh and share life with? I am 53, attractive, curious and unconventional business woman. Honest reply with photo please to Box No 2693

ARE you an interesting n/s male, 30-50yrs, living in the E. Midlands? If so, a slim attractive, intelligent and fun-loving female (29), with all the social skills, would like to meet you, to share enjoyable times. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2622

A tall, slim, blue-eyed brunette lady of warmth, personality and integrity. N/s, 30, divorced. Seeks loving relationship with similar gentleman able to follow own interests as well as sharing some of mine: opera, cultural travel, reading, the arts, photography, walks, nature, flowers, fun & laughter. (I am only a sports observer!) Car & house owner enjoying a high quality education & lifestyle. Wilts/Avon. Photo appreciated. All replies returned. Reply to Box No 2665

ATTRACTIVE continental lady mid 50's seeks n/s professional gentleman for company and romance 5'10"+ 50-60. S.E. Kent area. Reply Box No 2129

CHANCE may be OK, but sometimes mine needs a helping hand. This independent professional, quirky, sparky, early 50's Len. London based but country loving is looking for a 'go' onwards partnership. Probably London/SE, 50-60 man sensitive, adaptable & not too crusty. Photo pls. Box 2668

DARK-HAIRED Male heartsd active fun loving cuddly n/s 5'2" widow 49 seeks kind romantic bet worthy reformed man similar age to enjoy life music theatre boating laughter conversation & occasional silence- SE Berks. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2661

LADIES

DIVASTATING Dorset based brunette tall slim n/s 30's. Seeks kind cultured intelligent hon/prof man for fun romance special friendship possibly long-term love. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2617

GORGEOUS gregarious brunette aerobics teacher, mid 30's, well travelled, based Southampton & Hensley. Friendship O.K. Enjoys boats, power or sail. Loves to eat out, drinks & smokes. Needs to be loved & spoiled. Reply with photo to Box No 2600

JANE AUSTEN reader, "handsome clever and rich(ish), with a comfortable home and a witty disposition... has lived nearly 44 years in the world with very little to distress or vex her." Now looking to expand her circle of friends. Interested in most civilised hows & country pursuits (except grand opera). Central Scotland and East Anglia. Box No 2695

PETITE attractive, lively lady, talented, mature, feels warm, dynamic, successful professional gent 35-50. Bristol/S.Wales.Photo please.Box 2449

PROFESSIONAL lady with an enthusiasm for life and a wish to contribute nothing to penthouse WLTM a like-minded male (38-50) for sharing, compassion and cuddles. Interested in the arts, travel, walking, wining and dining. Home counties /London. Photo app.Reply to Box No 2619

R.U. 6 ft. 40+ and need a kind loving lady to share life's joys? Holmfirth area. Please Reply to Box No 2618

THE TIMES cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be.

We would advise readers not advertising to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

THINKING man trumpet - footballer. Gregarious, slim, elegant, intelligent, antique /animal, country-loving lady financially independent, sunny tall, kind, travelled, relaxed, n/s gentleman with B.O.H. 57+. London/E. Anglia. Photo and tel no appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2680

YORKSHIRE. Lady 50's adult family lover, the sea, Lowry, music, the arts, travelling, gardening, eat, cook but likes to dine out but WLTM gentleman 55-65 for travel, friendship /romance? Recent photo guaranteed. Reply Please Reply to Box No 2623

YOU are a single woman 27-40 of African origin and WLTM handsome, positive, successful man 41 of strong character with dry SOH from South East. Send profile/photo/phone number. Reply to Box No 2676

LADIES

A continental businessman London based seeks intelligent female companion. Box 2132

A Eurasor New Year break for 40's active intelligent professionals. Reply to Box No 2697

A fun-loving lady 30-40 sought to share love of countryside travel wacky humour with SE Glos. pam. Photo app.Box No 2685

A good-looking successful stylish London businessman early 30's looking for blue dress-Oliver to fill an empty pair of silk stockings under the tree. Looks important, legs essential Photo appreciated. Reply Box No 2220

ALL work and no play makes Jack a dull boy - help me before it's too late! Successful business man good looking, dark hair, blue eyes, youthful early 40's, seeks stylish but unpretentious playmate, mid 30's or younger, to have me from my desk towards sunshine, ski slopes, ocean and beckoning generally! Photo please. Reply Box 2673

GENTLEMEN

ARROGANT Siamese cat(boy) seeks artistic Egyptologist toy. 12/5/45. 12/5/61. 16/5/61. 20/5/61. South. Box 1849

ARE you looking to put some fun & excitement into this season, N. year & beyond. Early 30's + tall businessman, attractive, W.S.O.H. & full of fun W.L.T.M. fun loving real lady age or area no concern. Photo please.Reply to Box No 2415

ATHLETIC handsome male 25 a true hedonist looking for escapes to the wicked side of life. Please/photo essence reply please to Box No 2592

BOURNEMOUTH attractive kind solvent widower 41 n/s C6OH W.LTM slim attractive female 30-39 for holiday/romance photo please.Box No 2592

BIRMINGHAM, divorced aged 46 with large Midlands townhouse and apartment abroad seeks attractive personable companion aged about 30 for friendship, romance? Any nationality. Please write with photograph to Box No 2618

CAPRICORN man 50yrs young 5'9", financial consultant, handsome/stylish slim feminine lady 5'-5'6". Interested in the arts. Must want to travel the world! Photo essential reply please to Box No 2686

DECEMBER 21ST in Mayfair. N.Y.eve party (& every Saturday) matched pairs 40+ come & celebrate with us. Small & informal. Champagne cocktails & canapes. Box No 2680

DROP DEAD looks - that's the aim, a healthier girl with no neuroses, aged 140+ ins. 28 & 35S. Male equivalent is 30's and as much fun! Will reply to all letters with photo.Box No 2684

EASY-GOING graduate, own bodycon, young 35, available to good-looking, fanatic similar lady for socialising, activities and who knows? London based. Photo if poss.to Box No 2626

GRADUATE 37, WLTM genuine witty female who enjoys sport, travel, eating out, classic & theatre.Reply to Box No 2687

MANAGING DIRECTOR 39, very attractive, North West, WLTM, very attractive lady with style aged 25-40 for long-term relationship. Photograph please. Reply to Box No 2665

SKIING widower, 60, seeks active female skier, 40-60, to share holiday depart car Jan 1 or 2, return Jan 8 or 9. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2621

VERY attractive professional guy, 40, solvent, adventurous, stable loving, erotic girlfriend, any age/nationality. London area. Please Reply to Box No 2696

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Five leading players teamed up yesterday to toast a lucrative sponsorship for the RFU women's rugby national cup by the vodka distiller, Vladivar. They are, from left, Jenny Chambers (Richmond), Fiona Winder (Saracens), Carol Isherwood (Richmond), Angie Brew (Saracens) and Charlie Brooks (Richmond). Photograph: Peter Trievnor

Student faces ban after code violation



Spencer: facing year off

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ALTHOUGH the Rugby Football Union (RFU) is still investigating the circumstances, it was confirmed yesterday that Adrian Spencer will have to apply for reinstatement to the amateur code because he has played rugby league for London Crusaders.

Spencer, 21, came on in the University match at Twickenham last week as a replacement centre, having played the previous season as an amateur for the Crusaders. "I suppose this is going to cause me some trouble," he said yesterday. "I played three games but received no payment. I'll have to row with the tide."

In fact, Spencer has been playing rugby union for 15 months since inadvertently "professionalising" himself, and his credits include appearances in the University under-21 match and the second-team fixture between the Cambridge LX Club — for whom he played most of last term — and the Oxford Greyhounds. Such games attracted little notice compared with his stepping out at Twickenham as a replacement for Glenn Harrison.

Spencer, from Warrington, played for the British Amateur Rugby League Association under-19s and has captained Cambridge in the rugby league University match. He remains eligible for the fixture this season, on March 7.

As a third-year undergraduate in engineering sciences hoping to stay at Cambridge for a fourth year to do his masters degree, it may be that a reduction in his sporting activities would win the tacit approval of the authorities at St John's college, while Spencer himself has admitted that he does not want to become "a pawn between the two codes".

The RFU authorities considered the time since Spencer's last appearance with professional rugby players, but decided that the year's suspension, as stipulated in the International Rugby Football Board regulations, would still apply. These state that "no person shall play with a non-amateur club involved in the playing of any other type of rugby football.

"A person in breach of these regulations forfeits his amateur status. A person who has not received material benefit may be reinstated, provided that a period of at least one year has elapsed since the breach."

Dudley Wood, the secretary of the RFU, said yesterday: "His year must start from the University match — subject to confirmation that he did break the regulations. He can apply for reinstatement after one year."

It will be up to Spencer, who turned down the opportunity to sign professional forms with the Crusaders in favour of his academic career, to decide whether to do so. In the meantime, St John's must manage without him in the university's college knockout competition next term.

Neil Robinson, the secretary of London Broncos, as the former Crusaders are now known, said: "I can categorically say he appeared as an amateur. We tried to sign him on a professional contract. I understand the rugby union is now saying that he has forfeited his amateur status for 12 months, in other words, that he has been banned. If that's the case, then it's an outrage.

"We'd love to have him back in our side and, at the moment, I'm trying to contact him in Cambridge."

☐ Llanelli, who have lost six of their 11 Heineken League matches this season, have been docked two points for their failure to comply with league regulations in respect of their second-XV fixture list. It pushes them into the bottom third of the first division table. The regulation came into force only this season and requires clubs to play first-team and second-team fixtures on the same day.

Eubank's act of pity lays bare human face of sport

Curiosity being stronger than morality, I watched a couple of minutes of the Chris Eubank fight on Saturday night. *I am glad I did: I saw* a thing so extraordinary that I am still puzzling about it.

Eubank was in the middle of knocking seven bells out of *his opponent*, Henry Wharton. He landed a series of punches straight into an obliging and already well-battered face, and then *turned away and spoke to* the referee.

It was clear that he was asking the referee to intervene and stop the fight, *saying Wharton* had received enough blows, was incapable of defending himself properly.

The cynical would say *that he was attempting to* manipulate the referee for a cheap victory. The fact remains that nobody who turns away from his opponent *in a boxing ring* has self-preservation as his first priority.

The moment was utterly bizarre. It looked, in this *brutal form of public entertainment*, like nothing less than compassion.

Eubank spent the rest of the fight not fighting, *launching few blows, taking* few. A cynical interpretation is more viable here. Eubank knew he had won, and was therefore taking the safest route to the final bell: no blaze of glory, no last chance for Wharton.

But the tactic argues a lack of ruthlessness. Eubank lacked the desire to finish things off. The aggressive option was certainly there; after all, Wharton was blind in one eye by this time. Eubank could not, or would not do it. Again, it looked like compassion.

I had spent the afternoon at Twickenham where England, manifestly superior to Canada, had nevertheless allowed the Canadians to come back at them and score three tries. Though this was not, like boxing, potentially a matter of life and death, England unquestionably demonstrated a lack of *ruthlessness*.

There was a reluctance to humiliate opponents already well-beaten. Compassion is too strong a word for what happened, but there was a softness about England's approach that allowed Canada to salvage a little self-respect from a traumatic afternoon.

Mercy has a human heart, *pity a human face*. The obvious conclusion is that sport does not demand of its practitioners all that is most admirable in the human *heart and face*.

We are constantly encouraged to see sport as a guide to real life, its leading practitioners as role models. But to model life on sport is to seek a society in which mercy, pity, and compassion play no part. And after all, we have seen an attempt to create just such a society, one based exactly on that principal that the race is always to the swift, compassion for the slow mere weakness.

But not even sport is really like that. When it is done, it is done. At the final bell, the whistle, the tape, the hooter, time and again, winners and losers embrace. *In* boxing, potentially lethal enmity turns, at the stroke of a bell, into a strange kind of love. The boxing ring is a place of *quite extraordinary intimacy*; so often, the final bell opens the floodgates of compassion.

Different sports demonstrate *the same phenomenon* in different degrees. I suspect the physical intimacy of boxing makes it the leader in instant compassion; *the more remote you* are from your opponent, the more elusive compassion becomes.

The sport most famous for unforgiving *feuds is Formula* One motor racing. Here, the spontaneous overflow of fellow-feeling takes not seconds but years. But it happens. Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna shared one of the longest feuds in sporting history; yet Prost has spoken movingly about Senna. Ultimately, it seems, their rivalry acquired something of

MIDWEEK VIEW



SIMON BARNES

love, and Prost feels curiously diminished by Senna's death.

Compassion *exists in* sport. It has to, because sport is played by people with human hearts, human faces. In football, players return the ball to the opposition after an injury. In *tennis, a player will often* support another over a bad call.

And when it is done, compassion, hitherto held in check, can be given full rein. The post-match handshake is often not so much a token of respect as of reconciliation. A peacemaking. And that is perhaps as important a part of sport as rivalry.

Let *me close by quoting* Frans de Waal, the biologist, from his ground-breaking study, *Peacemaking Among Primates*. For the word "biology" you may, if you wish, substitute "sport".

"My main purpose here is to correct biology's bleak orientation on the human condition. In a decade in which peace has become the single most *important public* issue, it is essential to introduce the accumulated evidence that, for humans, making peace is as natural as *making war*."

Yellow cards will not lead to suspension

PLAYERS who receive a yellow card in different matches during the five nations' championship this season will not be suspended, it was confirmed yesterday.

The five nations' committee has agreed to introduce the yellow and red card, as are used in football, but, in the scheme's early stages, players will not be excluded from the championship, even if they are yellow-carded one week and again a fortnight later.

The system is largely designed to clarify whether a player has been guilty of foul play. Two *yellow cards in a* match will mean a sending-off, in the same way as a second foul following a warning presently results in a player's dismissal.

Brian Moore, the England pack leader, said: "I am not really in favour of cards in rugby. The system could help referees flinch away from making harsh decisions that might be necessary and has opened up a further area of debate and controversy. We will have to get used to it and we will be interested to see how it works in practice."

☐ *Emyr Lewis's place in* Wales's opening five nations' championship match, against France on January 21, is in doubt after a specialist confirmed that the Cardiff backrow forward damaged ligaments in his right ankle at Bridgend on Saturday.

Christie gathers World Cup squad

BY DAVID HANDS

TWO of the South Africans who recently toured Wales, Scotland and Ireland have been omitted from the World Cup training squad of 48 which will come together for the first of a series of training camps in February next year.

Kevin Putt, the Natal scrum half who played second fiddle to Joost van der Westhuizen on tour, and Drikus Hattingh, the Northern Transvaal lock, have been overlooked in a squad which restores James Small to favour and has thrown up a complete newcomer in Bennie Nortje, a student scrum half who has yet to play senior provincial rugby but who now leapfrogs Putt.

Small, the fiery Natal wing who was sent off when playing for South Africa against Australia last year, was omitted from the British tour after a series of incidents, the latest in a nightclub in Port Elizabeth. However, Kitch Christie, the South Africa coach, always hoped to include him in the squad, doubtless hoping that the setback to his rugby career would force him to keep his temper in check.

Nortje, 21, a student at the Rand Afrikans University in Johannesburg, has played for Transvaal's B side. When the new season begins, he could link with Jannie de Beer, the Orange Free State stand-off half who is in the process of transferring to Transvaal, where he will be in direct competition with Hennie le Roux, who played stand-off in both internationals during the British tour.

The squad also includes Andrew Aitken, who made such a favourable impression during his one year at Oxford University. Aitken, 26, won his Blue in 1993 after a series of dashing displays in Oxford's back row, and went on to play for Watsonians last season in the hope of interesting the Scottish selectors.

This year, he has played for Western Province on the flank and, though small by modern standards at 6ft 1in, bears comparison with, for example, Ruben Kruger, who became a fixture in the international side in Britain. Neither of the two latecomers to the tour party in Britain, Helgard Muller and Jannie Claassens, have found a place in the training squad, which will assemble between February 3 and 5.

SOUTH AFRICA SQUAD: Backs: G Johnson (Transvaal), A Joubert (Natal), T van Rensburg (Transvaal), C Badenhorst (Orange Free State), P Hendriks (Transvaal), J Oliver (Northern Transvaal), J Small (Natal), C van der Westhuizen (Natal), C Williams (Western Province), M Linee (Western Province), J Mulder (Transvaal), P Muller (Natal), C Scholtz (Transvaal), B Venter (Orange Free State), J de Beer (Transvaal), E Herbert (Orange Free State), H Honiball (Natal), H le Roux (Transvaal), J Stransky (Western Province), B Nortje (RAU), J Roux (Transvaal), J van der Westhuizen (Northern Transvaal). Forwards: P du Randt (Orange Free State), I Hattingh (Transvaal), M Hunter (Northern Transvaal), T Laubscher (Western Province), A-H le Roux (Orange Free State), S Swart (Transvaal), J Dalton (Transvaal), N Drotske (Orange Free State), H Tromp (Northern Transvaal), U Schmidt (Transvaal), M Andrews (Natal), K Otto (Northern Transvaal), P Schutte (Transvaal), H Strydom (Transvaal), K Wiese (Transvaal), A Aitken (Western Province), G Combrinck (Transvaal), R Kruger (Northern Transvaal), I Macdonald (Transvaal), F Pienaar (Transvaal), A Richter (Northern Transvaal), R Strasuil (Transvaal), C Strauss (Western Province), G Telchmann (Natal), E van der Bergh (Eastern Province), F van Heerden (Western Province).

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FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying: Group one: Israel 0 Romania 1 (in Tel Aviv); Azerbaijan 0 France 5 (in Trabzon, Turkey). Group five: Malta 2 *Norway 3 (in Valletta).*

Monday's results

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Manchester *City 1 Arsenal 2.*

BOB LORD TROPHY: Quarter-final: Dagenham and Redbridge 4 Dover 3.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Millwall 2 Watford 1; Chelsea 1 Queens Park Rangers 1; Bristol Rovers 2 Oxford Utd 1

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Wolverhampton 2 Bolton 2. Second division: Preston 1 Oldham 1.

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: *Premier division: Guiseley 1* Gainsborough 0. First division: Ashton Utd 0 Eastwood Town 0.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES CUP: Second round, second leg: Ebbw Vale 6 Llanelli 2 (agg: 11-2)

FA YOUTH CUP: Second round replay: Sheffield Utd 3 Bradford 0.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League: Under-19 Trophy: West Midlands 2 Staffordshire 2. Under-18 Trophy: Lancashire 3 Cheshire 1.

ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: Racing 2 Argentinos Juniors 1; Rosario Central 1 Independiente 1; Boca 0 River 3; Talleres 0 Gimnasia Jujuy 0; Platense 1 Newell's Old Boys 1; Huracan 3 Banfield 1; Gimnasia La Plata 0 Ferro 0; Lanus 2 San Lorenzo 2.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Semi-finals, second leg: Corinthians 1 *Atletico Mineiro 0 (3-3 on* agg; Corinthians win on having a better overall record in the competition); Guarani 1 Palmeiras 2 (Palmeiras win 5-2 on agg).

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL): Miami 45 Kansas City 28.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Boston 113 Denver 103; Miami 122 New York 111; New Jersey 128 Orlando 101; San Antonio 122 Washington 101; Utah 101 Portland 89; Phoenix 90 Golden State 84.

BOWLS

CAMBRIDGE PARK: Leonard Denny Memorial Trophy (two rink inter-club championship): First round: Sevenoaks bt Angel (Tonbridge) 41-32; Dartford Stone Lodge bt Greenwich 41-24, Deangate Ridge bt Prince Arthur 41-39, Oyster bt White Oak 42-36; Chesham bt David Lloyd 47-32; Tilbury bt Essex County 40-29; Dorchester bt Dolphin 43-39; Ficketts Lock bt Paddington 42-40; Athenley bt Isle of Purbeck 59-21; Mansfield bt The Lawns 33-32; Cambridge Park bt Richmond 49-31, Camberley bt Hounslow 47-30; Wey Valley bt Donnyngs 76-25; Egham bt King George Field 43-36; Cyphers bt Croydon 42-36; Handy Cross bt *Stoke Mandeville 40-29, Bishop's Stortford* bt Riverain 51-35, Herts Watford bt Gosling 47-38; Adur bt Havant 40-39; Banister Park bt Arun 52-38; Gratton bt Wealden 36-31; Preston bt Langney 62-27, Bedford Borough bt Luton 45-37; Wellingborough bt Lawson Park 40-34; Brackley bt Chipping Norton 46-40, C and C Oxford bt Isis 53-40.

HOUGUED DU POMMIER, Guernsey: Women's Indoor International: Guernsey bt Ireland, 16-6. Singles: (Guernsey names first): C Le Poidevin bt A Doggart, 7-0, 7-3, 7-4; J Beglin lost to M Wilkinson, 7-3, 3-7, 3-7; A Simon bt B Cameron, 7-0, 7-0, 2-7, 7-4; K Renouf lost to M Johnston, 5-7, 7-6, 3-7, 1-7; *J Nicolle bt E Bell, 7-4, 7-3,* 5-7, 7-3, B Hurford bt A Elliott, 7-0, 7-0, 7-6. Pairs: Le Poidevin and Beglin tied with Elliott and Doggart, 18-18; Nicolle and Hurford tied with Johnston and Bell, 15-15; Simon and Renouf bt Cameron and Wilkinson, 27-12. Triples: Renouf, Hurford, Simon bt Wilkinson, Doggart, Elliott, 18-15; Beglin, Nicolle, Le Poidevin bt Bell, Cameron, Johnston, 17-13.

SUN LIFE WESSEX LEAGUE: Weston St Andrews bt Woodspring 122-46 (16-0); Christie Miller bt Bath 92-71 (14-2); Bristol bt Frome 101-48 (16-0); Clarke Dunbar bt Nailsea 78-71 (14-2), Yate bt Whitchurch 80-68 (14-2).

CRICKET

CASTLE CUP (final day of four): Natal 330 and 246-5 dec (M Bruyns 85, N Wright 59); Western Province 303 and 193-6 (S Koenig 73, D Haynes 70) Match drawn

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Positions: Queensland played 5, 20 pts; Victoria 3, 11.1; New South Wales 3, 8, South Australia 3, 8, *Tasmania 5, 8, Western Australia* 3, 3 7.

GOLF

SONY *WORLD RANKINGS (US* unless stated): 1, N Price (Zim) 21.30pts; 2, G Norman (Aus) 20.68; 3, N Faldo (GB) 18.78; 4, B Langer (Ger) 15.66; 5, J M Olazábal (Sp) 15.18; 6, F Couples 13.74; 7, E Els (SA) 13.59; 8, C Montgomerie (GB) 12.36; 9, M Ozaki (Japan) 11.39; 10, C Pavin 10.87; 11, D Frost (SA) 9.92; 12, F Zoeller 9.75; 13, T Kite 9.19; 14, S Ballesteros (Sp) 8.89; 15, V Singh (Fiji) 8.56; 16, I Woosnam (Wales) 8.23; 17, T Lehman 8.09; 18, M McNulty (Zim) 8.01; 19, L Roberts 7.46.

RIFLE SHOOTING

COUNTY CUP (teams of 20 at 50 and 100 yds): 1, Surrey 7,784pts; 2, Hampshire 7,718, 3, Lancashire 7,713. BSA Cup (20s *at short range*): 1, Lancashire 3,907; 2, Lothian 3,897; 3, Surrey 3,895. Women: Dewar (teams of 5): 1, Lothian 1,932; 2, Warwicks 1,928; 3, Bucks 1,919. Short range: 1, Surrey 1,936, 2, Beds 1,936

SKIING

SESTRIERE: World Cup: Men's slalom: 1, A Tomba (It) 1min 53.61sec; 2, T Fogdoe (Swe) 1:53.76; 3, M Trischer (Austria) 1:54.44, 4, J Kosir (Slovakia) 1:55.55; 5, T Stangassinger (Austria) 1:55.70; 6, S Arnaz (Fr) 1:55.76; 7, M Reiter (Austria) 1:55.84, 8, T Sykora (Austria) 1:55.94; 9, K A Aamodt (Nor) 1:56 96. 10, OC Puruseth (Nor) 1:56.41.

SNOOKER

ANTWERP: European Open: First round: (England unless stated): J Wattana (Thai) bt M King 5-4; T Griffiths (Wales) bt G Wilkinson 5-3; D Reynolds bt J Swail (N Ire) 5-3; S Davis bt M Hallett 5-0; J Parrott bt A Davies (Wales) 5-4; D Roe bt M Price 5-1.

TENNIS

ATP RANKINGS (US unless stated): 1, E Sampras 5,097pts; 2, A Agassi 3,249; 3, B Becker (Ger) 3,237; 4, S Bruguera (Sp) 3,007, 5, G Ivanisevic (Cro) 2,936; 6, M Chang 2,647; 7, S Edberg (Swe) 2,471; 8, A Berasategui (Sp) 2,470, 9, M Stich (Ger) 2,380; 10, T Martin 2,307; 11, Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 2,174; 12, W Ferreira (SA) 2,121; 13, J Couier 1,908; 14, M Rosset (Switz) 1,770.

SCHOOLS: Midland Bank team competition: National finals. Boys: 13 and under: Langley Park, Kent bt Eversfield Prep, Solihull 3-3 (29-25). 15 and under: Millfield, Somerset bt Coopers Company and Coborn, Essex 5-1. Girls 13 and under: Amberfield, Suffolk bt Central Newcastle High, Tyne and Wear 5-1. 15 and under: Queenswood, Herts bt St Helen and St Katharine, Oddordshire 4-2.

YACHTING

BOC CHALLENGE SOLO ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Second leg (Capetown to Sydney): Leading positions (at 09.00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Sydney): Class 1: 1, Soeta Calverson (C Aurgun, Fr) 1,894; 2, Hunter's Child (S Petersgill, US) 2,270; 3, Vendée Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 2,338, 4, Novell South Africa (J Provoyeur, SA), 2,488; 5, Coyote (D Scully, US), 2,636; 6, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, US), 3,413. Class 2: 1, *True Blue* (D Adams, Aus), 2,123, 2, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 2,322; 3, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aus), 3,132; 4, Jim Roda II (N Vaughan, GB), 3,137, 5, Cornwall (R Davie, GB), 3,358; 6, Sky Catcher (N Rowe, GB), 3,445; 7, Shuten-Doniji (M Saito, Japan), 3,541; 8, Henry Hornblower (H Mitchell, GB), 4,607

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

European championship
Qualifying group seven
Wales v Bulgaria
(National Stadium, Cardiff) .....

FA Cup
Second round replay
Scunthorpe v Birmingham (7.45) .....

Bell's Scottish League
First division
Clydebank v Hamilton ....

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Challenge Cup: Third round: Bishop Auckland v Emley

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Wealdstone v Clevedon. Dr Martens Cup: Third round: Rushden and Diamonds v Baldock; VS Rugby v Worcester

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheddon v Tiverton

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Shildon v Tow Law

JEWSON FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Sudbury v Woodbridge

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Gosport v Petersfield.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: *League Cup: Second round: Sheffield* v Louth.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers v Bradford PA; Salford City v Maine Road.

SURREY SENIOR CUP: Molesey v Crystal Palace

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton v Wimbledon (7.15); Charlton Athletic v Portsmouth (at Welling Town FC, 7.0); Ipswich v Swindon; Luton v Tottenham Hotspur (at Hitchin FC, 2.0), Crystal Palace v Southampton (at Plough Lane, 2.0). League Cup: Cardiff v Plymouth (2.0), Exeter v Swansea (7.0), Hereford v Bournemouth (7.0), Yeovil v Bath (7.45).

PONTINS LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Aston Villa v Manchester United; Blackburn Rovers v Sunderland (at Wigan FC); Leeds United v Tranmere Rovers (at Halifax Town FC); Nottingham Forest v Derby County. Second division: Barnsley v Huddersfield Town, Blackpool v Sheffield Wednesday; Middlesbrough v Burnley; Newcastle United v Bradford City (at Gateshead FC), York v Leicester

SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Full Film Trophy: Fourth round: Aldershot v North Avon (at Farnborough Town FC); Worcester v Lea Valley (at Worcester, 2.0). FA Premier League: Under-18 Trophy: Avon v Devon (at Poulton Rovers FC, 7.0).

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Hailsham v Southwick.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: League Cup: Second round: Raunds v Whitworths.

MIDDLESEX SENIOR CUP: Second round: Hillingdon v Bedfont, Wilsesden v Viking Sports

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.0 unless stated

McEwan's inter-district championship
South v Edinburgh District
(at Riverside Park, Jedburgh) .....

CIS under-21 county Championship
Cumbria v Cheshire
(at Aspatria, 7.30) ....
Yorkshire v Durham
(at Morley, 7.30) ....

Club matches
Harlequins v West London Inst .....
Llanelli v Narberth .....
Nuneaton v HM Prisons (7.15) .....

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Birmingham v Leopards (8.0) 7-Up Trophy: *Semi-finals, second leg:* Sheffield (75) v Doncaster (69) (8.0); Thames Valley Tigers (87) v Worthing Bears (91) (8.0)

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Jockey Club unveils plans to hasten stewards' inquiries

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

THE Jockey Club is to streamline and speed up post-race stewards' inquiries in an attempt to recoup an estimated £1 million a year in lost betting revenue.

A radical set of proposals, including the introduction of new technology and a dual-track system for spotting irregularities during races, were unveiled last night by Sir Thomas Pilkington, senior steward of the Jockey Club, at the annual Gimcrack dinner in York.

The measures follow growing criticism of the length of time taken to conduct inquiries into possible breaches of the rules during a race. In the United States inquiries are invariably completed in three or four minutes, but in Britain it is not unusual for an inquiry to be in progress at least 40 minutes after an incident occurred — and in the meantime another race has been run.

The delays have a detrimental effect on betting, on and off-course, and Lord Wyatt of Weeford, chairman of the Tote, estimated in September they were costing racing £1 million a year in lost levy income. The Jockey Club has taken up an offer from Lord Wyatt, made during a speech at the St Leger dinner, to pay for the installation of any modern equipment needed to reduce the time of inquiries.

The Tote is funding the installation of an internal public address system in weighing rooms to speed up the appearance of witnesses and a three-way telephone communications system which will enable race officials to confer immediately after a race without first returning to the weighing room.

The changes outlined by Sir Thomas will include every racecourse having two stewards secretaries on duty so that one, accompanied by a steward, can for the first time watch the races live on television and take advantage of improved technical facilities, while their colleagues view the proceedings, as usual, from vantage points on the track.

"Apart from being able to announce and set up inquiries quicker, the stewards' secretary will have more time to review earlier races in slow motion, show films to young jockeys at fault and to brief the press when appropriate," Sir Thomas said.

The Jockey Club is working on ways to speed up the actual process of inquiries, including the attendance of jockeys and when they should give evidence. For example, jockeys at present give their evidence twice. They come into an inquiry and explain what happened, then look at film of the race, and say again what happened. "We are convinced it is feasible to streamline the system, particularly for minor inquiries."

Sir Thomas added: "Certain technical improvements are being introduced which again will help in speeding up the whole process. These include better communication between the stewards watching the racing on the course and in the stewards' room and an effective public address system in the weighing room area to summon jockeys and trainers quickly for an inquiry."

The lack of existing communication equipment and the time taken to find jockeys or trainers required at an inquiry causes delay. In future, jockeys and other witnesses will be expected to be present in a relatively short time after being summoned. The mechanics of recording the inquiry details will be speeded up with the introduction of computerised equipment.

Since being chosen as senior steward, Sir Thomas has been a keen advocate of keeping on and off-course punters fully informed of what is going on at the racetrack, with explanations for any potentially controversial decisions.

"Fuller announcements are already being made and, with the co-operation of the Racecourse Association, it is planned to fax relevant information from the weighing room to Satellite Information Services (which beams racing into betting shops) and television companies covering the meeting as soon as it becomes available.

"At the moment it is difficult, or sometimes impossible, for people in betting shops or watching television at home to discover why the result of a race has been amended, and this is reflected in the number of letters expressing frustration which are sent to the racing press. We will remedy that," he promised.

If racing was to succeed and flourish within a competitive leisure industry, it had to provide the sort of entertainment and enjoyment which the sport's supporters required. To that end, the Jockey Club will do everything necessary to ensure that the conduct of a day's racing is carried out professionally, openly and with all possible speed.

Sir Thomas concluded: "Procedures will be refined and put in place. When training is required, it will be carried out. If resources are needed, they must be forthcoming. Racing should expect nothing less, and I can assure you that the Jockey Club will meet that expectation."

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: EDIMBOURG (1.20 Exeter)
Next best: Valianthe (12.50 Exeter)

ED BYRNE



The lengthy inquiry which resulted in the demotion of Givus A Buck, left, in the 1992 Whitbread Gold Cup could be a thing of the past under new Jockey Club proposals

Murphy's return likely to be delayed

By Julian Muscat

DECLAN MURPHY, who has been preparing for a return to the saddle in the King George VI Chase on Boxing Day, has all but resigned himself to sitting out the remainder of the National Hunt season.

The Irish jockey, who fractured his skull in a Haydock fall in May, requested an independent medical review after the Jockey Club's licensing committee rejected his application for the renewal of his jockey's licence two weeks ago. However, Murphy has since had second thoughts and is almost certain to delay his comeback until the start of the 1995-96 campaign.

"I intend to speak to everyone involved in the next few days and draw my own conclusions about the best thing to do," Murphy said yesterday. "I was hoping it would be possible to ride Bradbury Star in the King George but everything is happening too slowly as far as I'm concerned. It has not matched the speed of my own recovery so I'm debating whether to take the remainder of the season off. I'll make my decision towards the end of the week."

Murphy's rapid recovery from surgery has bemused the medical profession, particularly John Miles, the specialist who has overseen the jockey's programme of recuperation. Miles testified as much when Murphy re-applied for his licence, but Dr Michael Turner, the Jockey Club's chief medical officer, advised the stewards to turn down the request. The fact that Murphy's driving licence has been withdrawn for 12 months has proved something of a stumbling block.

"I feel fitter now than at any other stage in my life," Murphy said. "The last couple of weeks have been frustrating but I'm prepared to accept the Jockey Club's argument, provided there is a meeting of minds. It is important that they understand how I feel about it."

Souyave takes on new role planning for future

By Alix Ramsay

THE All England Women's Hockey Association (AEWHA) is taking a leap in the dark in preparation for the year 2000. The body has appointed Maggie Souyave as director of player performance, a new and salaried post.

Souyave, who will continue as coach to the England senior squad, will now work full time for the Association not only to prepare the England team for international competition but to create a system for finding and developing new talent in all age groups.

For Souyave, the appointment is something of a leap in the dark. After nearly 20 years as a physical education teacher, she is leaving the security of a job as head of physical education at Merchant Taylors' School, Crosby, to walk on the very thin ice that is professional sports management.

"Every day, you pick up the paper and read about another football manager who has been sacked, but I'm at the stage now where, if I am going to do something like this, now is the time to do it," she said.

In her new role, Souyave will be able to coordinate player development from grass-roots level through to the senior, élite group. It is an innovative project and one that should provide a recognisable route for young, talented players to follow to the top of the sport.

"We need to identify the nine and ten-year-olds and offer them something to tempt them and make them stay with hockey," she said. "Other countries have their successful systems and we need to look at them, but develop our own



Souyave: challenge

way; a way that suits our lifestyle at home."

Souyave has been around long enough to know that miracles do not happen overnight. "It must be a long-term plan," she said. "It's a challenge for the AEWHA as well as for me. We're going forward, but we'll have to see if it's going to work and see if it provides the right players for the future."

□ City of Portsmouth, from the Nastro Azzurro South League, who defeated Hull, the National League first division club, on Sunday, have been drawn at home to Neston, of the second division, in the fourth round of the Hockey Association Cup on January 15 (Sydney Friskin writes). With Spencer, from the South League, travelling to the Midlands to play Bridgnorth, at least one "non-league" club is guaranteed a place in the last 16.

The draw features five matches between first division clubs, with Reading entertaining Hounslow and Havant travelling to East Grinstead. Bournville are at home to Southgate, who beat them 5-1 on September 18. Old Loughtonians are at home to Stourport while Firebrands play Canterbury.

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Fourth round: Beeston v Hampstead and Westminster; Bournville v Southgate; Bridgnorth v Spencer; Cannock v Timperley; City of Portsmouth v Neston; East Grinstead v Havant; Firebrands v Canterbury; Formby v Slough; Isca v Brooklands; Nottingham v Guildford; Old Loughtonians v Stourport; Oxford Hawks v Barford Tigers; Reading v Hounslow; Richmond v Redbridge and Ilford; Teddington v St Albans; Warwick v Trojans.
Ties be played on January 15

EXETER

THUNDERER

12.50 Valianthe
1.20 Edimbourg
1.50 High Baron
2.20 Port In A Storm
2.50 Chickabiddy
3.20 **BEATSON** (nap)

GOING: SOFT SIS

12.50 WESTERN MORNING NEWS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,025: 2m 3f 110yd) (14 runners)

101 1443P3- MECADO 314 (V,G,S) (Maltsword Ltd) F Yardley 7-11-10 ... J Da Costa 88
102 234-211 VALIANTHE 16 (B,F,S) (Martin Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 6-11-6 ... R Dunwoody 90
103 FP-P034 SOUTH SANDS 12 (C,F,G) (D Walker) A Forte 8-10-13 ... B Powell —
104 23P050 TIGER CLAW 13F (F,G) (Unity Farm Holiday Centre) A Barrow 8-10-13 ... D Bridgwater 95
105 30-P0P6 GEORGE BUCKINGHAM 18 (B,S) (Brockley Bloodstock) G Ham 9-10-11 ... A P McCoy (3) 93
106 004-403 CLOGHRAN LAD 9 (V,G,S) (R Boulden) Mrs H Parrott 7-10-8 ... M A Fitzgerald 98
107 6-43402 BRIGTINA 14F (D,G) (R Miles) J Bradley 6-10-5 ... R Farrant 95
108 P0-4062 LAVALIGHT 9 (F) (L Phillips) R Hodges 7-10-3 ... I Lawrence [88]
109 3544P-P MILDRED SOPHIA 29 (S) (N Mitchell) N Mitchell 7-10-0 ... Miss S Mitchell (7) 90
110 340-0PP JOKERS PATCH 12 (B,S) (D Lemon) R Baker 7-10-0 ... J R Kavanagh 97
111 0/006-00 EARLY STAR 20 (B) (K Bishop) K Bishop 5-10-0 ... R Greene 70
112 P/140-30 EMMA VICTORIA 20 (C,F) (Mrs P Catlin) R Brotherton 6-10-0 ... L Harvey 73
113 50P30-0 IRISH DOMINION 20 (P Leach) P Leach 4-10-0 ... C Maude 71
114 P/00/0 MAJESTIC DREAM 55 (C Mitchell) C Mitchell 10-10-0 ... S McNeill —

Long handicap: Mildred Sophia 9-8, Jokers Patch 9-8, Early Star 9-5, Emma Victoria 9-5, Irish Dominion 9-1, Majestic Dream 8-6.

BETTING: 6-4 Valianthe, 5-1 Brigtina, 6-1 Mecado, 8-1 Lavalight, South Sands, 10-1 Cloghran Lad, 12-1 Tiger Claw, 14-1 Emma Victoria, 16-1 others.

1993: SANDRO 4-10-11 L Harvey (8-1) R Baker 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

MECADO 22l 3rd of 5 to Tel E Thon in a claiming hurdle at Lingfield (AW, 2m 2f). VALIANTHE beat Pioneer Pete 2½l in a 9-runner claiming novice hurdle at Worcester (2m 4f, soft). SOUTH SANDS 12½l 4th of 10 to Musical Monarch in a handicap hurdle here (2m 2f, good). BRIGTINA 1½l 2nd of 15 to Interplay in a selling handicap hurdle at Folkestone (2m 6f 110yd, good) with CLOGHRAN LAD 38l 8th and GEORGE BUCKINGHAM pulled up. LAVALIGHT 12l 2nd of 9 to Holy Joe in a claiming hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good) with CLOGHRAN LAD (6lb worse off) 12l 3rd.
Selection: LAVALIGHT

1.20 WESTCOUNTRY TELEVISION HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,948: 2m 7f 110yd) (8 runners)

201 3U22-22 JAILBREAKER 39 (BF,G,S) (Jack-Del-Roy) B Millman 7-11-10 ... M A Fitzgerald 93
202 111PP-1 EDIMBOURG 28 (F,G,S) (Mrs I Winton) Miss H Knight 8-10-10 ... J Osborne 94
203 4/P31/ THE NIGELSTAN 557 (F,G,S) (P Hedger) P Hedger 13-10-8 ... D O'Sullivan —
204 B03-244 MIGHTY FALCON 16 (F,G,S) (R Tory) R Alner 9-10-5 ... S Earle 98
205 006-P55 DISTILLATION 11 (B,G,S) (G Edwards) G Edwards 9-10-2 ... S Burrough 90
206 F000-PP BERESFORDS GIRL 16 (V,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Spelman) P Murphy 9-10-1 ... B Powell [88]
207 P/04RF- ROSE LANCASTER 242P (G) (M Griffin) M Griffin 11-10-0 ... S Curran (3) 78
208 00U0F-P TEARFUL PRINCE 36 (C Mitchell) C Mitchell 10-10-0 ... S McNeill —

Long handicap: Rose Lancaster 9-8, Tearful Prince 7-7.

BETTING: 5-4 Edimbourg, 9-4 Jailbreaker, 6-1 Mighty Falcon, 8-1 The Nigelstan, 10-1 Distillation, 14-1 Rose Lancaster, 16-1 others.

1993: SHEER ABILITY 7-10-9 R Dunwoody (9-4 fav) C Mann 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

JAILBREAKER 8l 2nd of 5 to Glemot in a handicap chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). EDIMBOURG beat Ask The Governor ¾l in an 8-runner handicap chase at Folkestone (2m 5f, good). THE NIGELSTAN beat Ok Corral 2½l in a 12-runner handicap chase at Stratford (3m, good to firm) in June 1993. MIGHTY FALCON distance last of 4 to Saffaah in a handicap chase at Worcester (2m, soft). BERESFORDS GIRL best recent effort 1l 2nd of 14 to Clever Shepherd in a handicap chase over course and distance (good) in April 1993 with THE NIGELSTAN pulled up.
Selection: EDIMBOURG

1.50 EDIMBOURG NOVICES CHASE (£5,179: 2m 2f) (8 runners)

301 /6F-1F1 ROCKY PARK 16 (S) (T Geake) G Balding 8-11-7 ... A P McCoy (3) [88]
302 322F02 CHANNEL PASTIME 20 (G) (Mrs S Worthington) D Burchell 10-11-0 ... Guy Lewis 82
303 00-680U GREEN'S GAME 13 (M Green) N Mitchell 6-11-0 ... S McNeill —
304 2R3014- HIGH BARON 242 (F,G,S) (Miss C James) R Alner 7-11-0 ... L Harvey 90
305 33P/352 MAJOR BUSH 28 (S) (P 7 Racing) Miss C Johnsey 7-11-0 ... J Frost 77
306 50-6 MR SUNNYSIDE 12 (G) (Mrs R Stanley) R Frost 8-11-0 ... M Griffiths —
307 PP6P0-U BELLE LOCK 27 (D Tucker) D C Tucker 6-10-9 ... P Holley —
308 LAURA'S FLUTTER (W Harrison-Allan) R Baker 5-10-9 ... P Holley —

BETTING: 6-4 High Baron, 9-4 Rocky Park, 5-1 Channel Pastime, 7-1 Major Bush, 12-1 Green's Game, Mr Sunnyside, 20-1 others.

1993: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ROCKY PARK beat Zamirah 2l in a 10-runner novice chase at Worcester (2m 4f 110yd, soft). CHANNEL PASTIME short-head 2nd of 9 to Prince Hotspot in a novice chase at Taunton (2m 3f, good). HIGH BARON high class hurdler, best recent effort beat Ponmywewen 6l in a 6-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m 110yd, good). MAJOR BUSH 1l 2nd of 7 to Embley Buoy in a novice handicap chase at Hereford (2m, good to soft).
Selection: ROCKY PARK

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard, G — good, S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.20 DORSET EVENING ECHO CLAIMING HURDLE
(£1,896: 2m 2f) (8 runners)

401 50045/0 FERMAIN 12 (P Brazier) P Leach 5-11-0 ... C Maude —
402 04/6009- JUST ONE CANALETTO 119F (Ti 7-Dawes) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-0 ... D Bridgwater —
403 500322 PORT IN A STORM 12 (BF,S) (The Full Circle Racing Club) N Tinkler 5-10-13 ... J Osborne 88
404 0110-44 DANCING DANCER 97 (F) (AEC Electric Fencing) R Frost 5-10-11 ... R Darke 73
405 00-6U CORPORAL CHARLIE 16 (Duckhaven Stud) R Baker 5-10-10 ... B Powell —
406 36133-1 STAR MOVER 13 (G,S) (O Stokes) W G M Turner 5-10-7 ... T Murphy (7) [88]
407 0 AMAZEMENTS CHOICE 29 (D Tucker) D R Tucker 4-10-5 ... S McNeill —
408 40005 GONNABEBIG 15 (BF) (Highflyers) G Balding 4-10-3 ... A P McCoy (3) 70

BETTING: 9-4 Star Mover, 5-2 Port In A Storm, 7-2 Just One Canaletto, 7-1 Gonnabebig, 10-1 Fermain, 12-1 Dancing Dancer, 14-1 others.

1993: DERRYMOSS 7-10-4 T Dascombe (10-1) M Pipe 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

JUST ONE CANALETTO 24l 11th of 13 to Time For A Run in a handicap hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, soft to heavy). PORT IN A STORM 8l 2nd of 12 to Rhoman Fun in a novice handicap chase at Hereford (2m, good). DANCING DANCER 30l 4th of 6 to Badastan in a handicap hurdle here (3m 3f, good). STAR MOVER beat Fly To The End 7l in a 10-runner selling handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good). GONNABEBIG 25l 5th of 7 to Nipper Reed in a conditional jockeys' selling hurdle at Leicester (2m, good to soft).
Selection: PORT IN A STORM

2.50 HENRIETTA KNIGHT BIRTHDAY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,911: 2m 2f) (11 runners)

501 140/041 MUSICAL MONARCH 12 (CD,G,S) (S Williams) O Sherwood 8-11-10 ... J Osborne 95
502 1P-3435 CHAPEL OF BARRAS 27 (G,S) (Hawkridge Cheese Ltd) P Hobbs 5-11-5 ... Peter Hobbs 97
503 1230/ SINGING FOREVER 1341 (D,G) (C Bitlor) B Meehan 7-11-2 ... P Holley —
504 2R1-P0R GREEN ISLAND 12 (CD,F,G,S) (J Moloney) A Dunn 8-11-0 ... J Frost 98
505 U312-05 SPREAD YOUR WINGS 11 (S) (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 6-11-0 ... G Bradley 95
506 102/304 GROUSEMAN 21 (B,G,S) (Aquarius) Miss H Knight 8-10-13 ... M A Fitzgerald 90
507 324210 JUST ROSIE 43 (CD,F,G) (Plough Racing) A Jones 5-10-8 ... S McNeill 95
508 631152 CHICKABIDDY 12 (CD,F,G) (G Edwards) G Edwards 6-10-7 ... A P McCoy (3) 98
509 2U1/P5' TANFIRION BAY 892 (F) (C Silverthorne) P Hedger 6-10-4 ... M Richards —
510 5/40P5-0 CHIAROSCURO 16 (S) (C Price) C Price 8-10-0 ... R Bellamy [88]
511 0640P-3 BANKONIT 11 (S) (Mrs A America) P Burgoyne 6-10-0 ... I Lawrence 95

Long handicap: Bankonit 9-13

BETTING: 7-2 Musical Monarch, 9-2 Grouseman, 5-1 Chickabiddy, 6-1 Just Rosie, 7-1 Chapel Of Barras, 10-1 Spread Your Wings, 12-1 Bankonit, 14-1 others.

1993: EDIMBOURG 7-11-0 J Osborne (10-11 fav) Miss H Knight 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

MUSICAL MONARCH beat CHICKABIDDY (6lb better off) 3½l in a 10-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good). CHAPEL OF BARRAS 7¾l 5th of 10 to The Caumrue in a handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good). GROUSEMAN 16½l 4th of 14 to Island Forest in a handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, good to soft). JUST ROSIE beat Beam Me Up Scotty 3½l in a 6-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with GREEN ISLAND pulled up. BANKONIT 13¾l 3rd of 12 to Nordansk in a handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, soft) with SPREAD YOUR WINGS (2lb better off) 4½l 5th.
Selection: CHICKABIDDY

3.20 BRISTOL EVENING POST NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,121: 2m 2f) (8 runners)

601 2009-21 BEATSON 67 (S) (Mrs E Gardiner) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-10 ... D Bridgwater 93
602 2245-3 TOUR LEADER 62 (P Jones) R Buckler 5-11-7 ... B Powell [88]
603 312-058 EXCLUSIVE EDITION 22 (G) (The Voice Group) Miss H Knight 4-11-4 ... J Osborne 88
604 0P56/0U COUNTRY RAMBLER 27 (J Charlton) P Hobbs 6-10-13 ... Peter Hobbs 80
605 6852-12 COEUR BATTANT 126 (BF,F) (B Jones) R Baker 4-10-6 ... M Perrett 96
606 660/4P- BANG ON TARGET 235 (S) (J Bowen) W G Turner 8-10-0 ... M Richards —
607 546F05 PENHILL FLAME 12 (G) (Miss D Sargent) N Mitchell 8-10-0 ... D Burrows (7) 75
608 P/PP-0P DUNNICKS WELL 22 (F Tucker) F Tucker 5-10-0 ... N Mann —

Long handicap: Penhill Flame 9-13, Dunnicks Well 9-0

BETTING: 5-4 Beatson, 3-1 Coeur Battant, 7-2 Tour Leader, 8-1 Exclusive Edition, 10-1 Country Rambler, 20-1 Bang On Target, 25-1 others.

1993: HANDY LASS 4-10-11 D Matthews (4-5 fav) Mrs A Knight 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

BEATSON beat Mabaw neck in a 16-runner novice handicap hurdle at Bangor (2m 4f, good to soft). TOUR LEADER 10¾l last of 3 to Toomuch Toosoon in a novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, firm). EXCLUSIVE EDITION 27½l 5th of 15 to Encore Un Peu in a novice hurdle over course and distance (good) on penultimate start. COEUR BATTANT beat Commanche Creek 8l in a 6-runner selling hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm) on penultimate start. PENHILL FLAME 39l 5th of 18 to Wise Statement in a conditional jockeys novice handicap hurdle here (2m 3f 110yd, good).
Selection: BEATSON (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Miss H Knight	10	31	32.3	J Lower	6	23	26.1
M Pipe	81	260	31.2	J Osborne	12	49	24.5
P Murphy	3	11	27.3	R Dunwoody	27	119	22.7
O Sherwood	4	15	26.7	Peter Hobbs	15	78	19.2
A Dunn	5	22	22.7	P Holley	9	50	18.0
P Hobbs	24	113	21.2	L Harvey	10	63	15.9

Shaikh enters 90 for Derby

SHAIKH MOHAMMED accounts for 90 of the 620 entries for the 1996 Vodafone Derby announced yesterday. Declarations cost £250 each with no forfeit until March 1996. The Shaikh has much the strongest team numerically, well clear of Shaikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum, who supplies 43 hopefuls. The Aga Khan has entered 24, ensuring a classic challenge should he end his boycott of British racing.

Bangor off

THE fixture at Bangor today has been abandoned because of waterlogging. After an afternoon inspection yesterday, the clerk of the course, Bob Davies said: "We've had half an inch of rain and there is water on the track."

It is the sixth meeting lost to the weather this winter.

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LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER
12.10 Captain Marmalade. 12.40 Bichette. 1.10 Bon Secret. 1.40 Komodo. 2.10 Silent Expression. 2.40 Kissavos. 3.10 Scalp' Em.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 12.10 HATTA SUNSHINE.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F - 7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

12.10 ROBERT MARCKS 75TH BIRTHDAY AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(£2,400: 1m 2f) (14 runners)

1 (7) 6362 MULCIBER 42J (CD,F,G) G Harwood 6-12-0 ... Miss A Harwood 85
2 (11) 4400 CREDIT SQUEEZE 55 (D,F,G) R Johnson Houghton 4-11-8 ... Miss E Johnson Houghton (3) 85
3 (3) 2100 OUR EDDIE 111 (V,CD,G) B Gubby 5-11-6 ... Mrs M Busby (3) 91
4 (5) 6402 CONSPICUOUS 41 (G) L Cottrell 4-11-4 ... L Jefford (3) 93
5 (4) 0040 CAN CAN CHARLIE 32 (G,S) J Pearce 4-11-3 ... Mrs L Pearce 83
6 (9) 0000 ROSE ELEGANCE 7 (D,F,G) O O'Neill 5-10-8 ... A Mitchell (7) 83
7 (14) 640- BIZAR 14J Pat Mitchell 3-10-8 ... Miss F Burke (7) 84
8 (2) 0023 CAPTAIN MARMALADE 7 (CD,G) D Thom 5-10-5 ... Miss Diana Jones 88
9 (10) 10/ JO N JACK 818 (CD,G) R Ingram 6-10-2 ... M Allen (7) —
10 (8) 6050 TUDOR FLIGHT 16 A Newcombe 3-9-11 ... Mrs D Arbuthnot (3) 94
11 (12) 6602 HATTA SUNSHINE 7 (CD,G) A Moore 4-9-10 ... T McCarthy (3) [88]
12 (13) 3200 MISTER O'GRADY 13J (V,CD,G) G L Moore 3-9-10 ... Mrs J Moore (7) 98
13 (1) 0000 BILL MOON 18 (C,F,G) P Felden 8-9-7 ... Miss J Felden (3) 90
14 (6) 0040 MALINGERER 13 D Wilson 3-9-7 ... Miss J Felden (3) 83

4-1 Mulciber, 9-2 Conspicuous, 6-1 Captain Marmalade, 7-1 others.

12.40 MADAGANS COMPANY SERVICES HANDICAP (Div I: £2,624: 7f) (16)

1 (2) 0000 EBONY BLAZE 46 C Wildman 3-9-11 ... D Harrison 85
2 (16) 3084 BOGART 22 C Fairhurst 3-9-7 ... R Cochrane 83
3 (4) 0443 OUR SHADEE 16 (V,CD,F) K Ivory 4-9-3 ... G Bardwell 90
4 (14) 0400 TRIOMING 18 (F) A Jones 8-9-3 ... N Adams 85
5 (15) 0026 DIGPAST 7 (B,D,G) R O'Sullivan 4-9-2 ... D Biggs 89
6 (3) 5040 STORM BIDDER 89J B Gubby 3-9-1 ... A Whelan (5) 80
7 (12) 0001 BICHETTE 16 (CD,G,S) G L Moore 4-9-1 ... B Rouse 90
8 (10) 6005 CALISAR 7 (B,D,G,S) P Howling 4-9-0 ... A Mackay 81
9 (7) 0000 PRINCE RODNEY 29J (B,D,F,G,S) C Drewe 5-9-0 ... R Perham —
10 (6) 6223 SHARP IMP 13 (B,D,F) R Flower 4-8-11 ... M Wigham [88]
11 (5) 5050 MUTINIQUE 7 (D,S) B Pearce 3-8-11 ... P Roberts (7) 92
12 (11) 0000 QUINZII MARTIN 107 (V,CD,G) D Haydn Jones 6-8-11 ... A Mackay 80
13 (9) 5-00 OAKLEY MANOR 51 P Evans 3-8-9 ... S Sanders (5) —
14 (1) 0305 FAYNAZ 16 (D,F) A Moore 8-8-5 ... T Williams (5) 92
15 (8) 0000 NO WHAT I MEAN 29J (B) J Moore 3-8-2 ... D Wright (5) —
16 (13) 0000 CRAFTY CRICKETER 16 (B) R Voorspuy 3-8-2 ... D Denby (7) 80

6-1 Bichette, 7-1 Bogart, Our Shadee, 8-1 Digpast, 10-1 others.

1.10 ARCHFORM ORTHODONTIC LABORATORIES CLAIMING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,788: 7f) (14)

1 (5) 2024 PLEASURE BEACH 14 (D,BF,G) W O'Gorman 8-10 ... Emma O'Gorman (3) 95
2 (1) 6006 WITNEY-DE-BERGERAC 18 (G) J Moore 8-8 ... A Clark 84
3 (4) 005 PERSIAN CONQUEST 13 R Ingram 8-7 ... J Williams 93
4 (3) 0524 BON SECRET 18 (BF) T Naughton 8-5 ... D Harrison 98
5 (5) 00 IRIE MON 51 J Hills 8-5 ... D Harrison —
6 (7) 0000 KIROV PROTEGE 76 R Armstrong 8-4 ... M Fenton 73
7 (13) 3000 TWO CHALK 32 P Evans 8-4 ... S Sanders (5) 78
8 (6) 0033 WATER BEBE 18 (D,F) G Bravery 8-4 ... T Williams 89
9 (8) DINGO WARRIOR J Fitch-Heyes 8-3 ... A Mackay —
10 (11) 4004 IRON MAN 7 (V) Lord Huntingdon 8-2 ... A Whelan (5) [88]
11 (12) 4000 FIERY FOOTSTEPS 16 P Howling 7-13 ... J Quinn 88
12 (14) 0006 SHARP TERN 18 B Smart 7-13 ... G Bardwell 87
13 (10) 0060 FAIR ELLA 13 (B) J Fitch-Heyes 7-12 ... N Adams 82
14 (2) 0000 BABY BOB 13 (B) J Eustace 7-10 ... N Varley (5) 93

5-2 Pleasure Beach, 5-1 Bon Secret, 7-1 Witney-De-Bergerac, 8-1 others.

1.40 HUDSON DENTAL EQUIPMENT MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,289: 6f) (7)

1 (4) 000 ALKA INTERNATIONAL 91 J White 9-0 ... J Williams 75
2 (7) 3020 GO HEVER GOLF 85 T Naughton 9-0 ... G Carter [88]
3 (6) 0200 KOMODO 49 D Elsworth 9-0 ... D Harrison [88]
4 (5) FALLAL K McAuliffe 8-9 ... A Clark —
5 (1) 3503 FRIENDLY LADY 13 W O'Gorman 8-9 ... Emma O'Gorman (3) 98
6 (2) 0 LAUREATE 18 D Haydn Jones 8-9 ... A Mackay —
7 (3) 20 ONE FOR JEANNIE 4 A Bailey 8-9 ... D Wright (5) 80

6-4 Go Hever Golf, 3-1 Friendly Lady, 7-2 Komodo, 8-1 Alka International, 12-1 One For Jeannie, 14-1 Fallal, 20-1 Laureate.

2.10 MADAGANS HANDICAP (£3,229: 5f) (8)

1 (5) 0013 PRESS THE BELL 28 (CD,F,G,S) J Berry 4-10-0 ... P Roberts (7) 94
2 (8) 0011 SILENT EXPRESSION 18 (C,F,G) B Meehan 4-9-11 ... R Cochrane [88]
3 (1) 3050 CRADLE DAYS 18 (D,F,G) R Spicer 5-9-11 ... M Fenton 94
4 (7) 2010 CROFT POOL 14 (D,G) J Glover 3-9-8 ... T Ives 96
5 (3) 3006 ROCKY TWO 16 (B,D,G) P Howling 3-8-12 ... A Mackay 88
6 (4) 0000 GRANMAS DELIGHT 15 K Ivory 3-8-7 ... N Varley (5) 85
7 (2) 0080 BATON BLEU 90 P Howling 3-7-12 ... J Quinn 80
8 (6) 0603 SWIFT NICK NEVISON 16 K Ivory 3-7-7 ... G Bardwell 84

5-2 Silent Expression, 3-1 Croft Pool, 4-1 Press The Bell, 6-1 Cradle Days, Swift Nick Nevison, 7-1 Rocky Two, 10-1 others.

2.40 MADAGANS COMPANY SERVICES HANDICAP (Div II: £2,624: 7f) (16)

1 (14) 6400 PIRATES GOLD 22J (C,G) J White 4-10-0 ... S Drowne (5) 82
2 (4) 2060 AS SUCH 16 (C,G) N Callaghan 3-9-12 ... T Ives 81
3 (10) 2042 RAD (D) S Woods 4-9-10 ... N Varley (5) 92
4 (12) 6-10 LADY BROKER 13 (D,G) A Bailey 4-9-9 ... D Wright (5) 87
5 (7) -550 VICTORIA HALL 18 W G M Turner 4-9-9 ... J D Smith (5) 88
6 (16) 0001 MAID WELCOME 16 (V,CD,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 7-9-8 ... Amanda Sanders (7) 95
7 (11) 4000 AKABUSI 14 (D,G) Lord Huntingdon 3-9-7 ... D Harrison 87
8 (5) 0005 EUROPHARM LASSIE 13 G L Moore 3-9-4 ... B Rouse 82
9 (6) 6600 KISSAVOS 7 (CD,F,G) C Elsey 8-9-0 ... M Fenton [88]
10 (15) 0000 ZINBAQ 18 (CD,F,G,S) C Benstead 8-8-12 ... T Williams 90
11 (8) 0000 HI PENNY 46 K Ivory 3-8-12 ... J Williams 90
12 (2) 5544 CHARLIES DREAM 16 (G) K Burke 3-8-12 ... J Quinn 95
13 (3) 0000 LADY VALIENT 78 M Haynes 3-8-10 ... A Clark 80
14 (9) 0-00 RUSTIC LEAGUE 13 T Naughton 3-8-10 ... V Halliday (7)
15 (13) 5343 JOINT EFFORT 13 A Moore 3-8-8 ... A Whelan (5) 96
16 (1) 5-00 SWALLOW RIDGE 7 R O'Sullivan 5-8-4 ... D Biggs —

5-1 Rad, 6-1 Maid Welcome, 7-1 Kissavos, 8-1 Joint Effort, Lady Broker, 10-1 Charlies Dream, 12-1 others.

3.10 MADAGANS LEGAL SERVICES APPRENTICES HANDICAP (£2,541: 1m 5f) (12)

1 (5) 5314 ADMIRALS SECRET 44 (C,BF,G) C Wall 5-10-0 ... C Webb (5) 90
2 (1) 4320 DAWN FLIGHT 53J (BF) J Jenkins 5-9-0 ... C Adamson 98
3 (11) 0062 QUEEN OF SHANNON 7 (G,S) B Meehan 6-8-13 ... D O'Neill 91
4 (10) 5035 DANCING DIAMOND 7 (H,C,G) Miss B Sanders 4-8-11 ... Amanda Bowen (7) 97
5 (7) 5362 SCALP 'EM 14 (F) P Evans 6-8-6 ... G Milligan (3) 94
6 (6) 0-34 NEARLY HONEST 20J R Hodges 6-8-3 ... Amanda Sanders (3) 88
7 (9) 0140 ROYAL CIRCUS 7 (F,G) J O'Shea 5-8-1 ... D Denby (5) 94
8 (4) 6100 PRISCILLA ROSE 39J (G) C Allen 3-8-1 ... A Eddery (5) [88]
9 (3) 4810 CONE LANE 112 (CD,F,G) B Gubby 8-7-13 ... G Mitchell 90
10 (2) 0453 GLOW FORUM 16 G L Moore 3-7-10 ... Caroline Hovington (7) 97
11 (8) 0003 ARIAN SPIRIT 35 W Musson 3-7-7 ... Martin Dwyer 93
12 (12) 0024 YOUNG LUCKY 16 C Wildman 3-7-7 ... S Lanigan 91

3-1 Admirals Secret, 4-1 Dawn Flight, 9-2 Queen Of Shannon, 7-1 Dancing Diamond, 8-1 Nearly Honest, 10-1 Royal Circus, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Bravery, 5 winners from 10 runners, 50.0%; K McAuliffe, 3 from 9, 33.3%; J Berry, 17 from 75, 22.7%; W O'Gorman, 38 from 173, 22.0%; Lord Huntingdon, 25 from 116, 21.6%; D Elsworth, 12 from 57, 21.1%.

JOCKEYS: Emma O'Gorman, 40 winners from 172 rides, 23.3%; Miss Diana Jones, 3 from 14, 21.4%; B Rouse, 22 from 152, 14.5%; R Cochrane, 14 from 101, 13.9%; J Williams, 51 from 396, 12.9%; J D Smith, 3 from 24, 12.5%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Folkestone

Going: good to soft (soft in places)

12.30 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Mediterraneo (R Dunwoody, 5-1); 2, Dynamic Deluxe (16-1); 3, Pampered Guest (6-4). Jamab 2-1 fav. 13 ran. 2½l, 4l. R Akehurst. Tote: £5.40; £2.10, £1.90, £1.50. DF: £71.40. CSF: £85.13.

1.00 (3m 2f ch) 1, Annio Chilone (P Hide, 7-1); 2, Tammy's Friend (2-1); 3, Hillwalk (14-1). Mr Matt 15-8 fav. 11 ran. ¾l, 3½l. J Gifford. Tote: £9.20; £1.60, £1.20, £4.40. DF: £12.50. Trio: £69.20. CSF: £22.79. Tricast: £191.68.

1.30 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Damcada (W Marston, 2-1 fav); 2, Chiltern Hundreds (25-1); 3, Celtic Lilley (20-1). 7 ran. ¾l, 3l. J Smith. Tote: £3.10; £2.10, £6.20. DF: £32.90. CSF: £38.58. No bid for winner.

2.00 (2m 5f ch) 1, Yeoman Warrior (R Dunwoody, 4-1); 2, Denver Bay (12-1); 3, Belly Clover (4-6 fav). 9 ran. 1l, 15l. R Rowe. Tote: £5.30; £1.10, £2.00, £1.50. DF: £16.50. Trio: £15.50. CSF: £47.09.

2.30 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Padishah (M Richards, 12-1); 2, Malwood Castle (25-1); 3, Scoresheet (7-1). Dommie 6-11 fav. 7 ran. 7l, 13l. W Muir. Tote: £15.00; £4.60, £5.80. DF: £71.40. CSF: £178.92.

3.00 (2m ch) 1, Pegmarine (J A McCarthy, 2-1); 2, Evening Rain (4-6 fav); 3, Devil's Valley (8-1). 4 ran. 4l, 20l. Mrs A Woodrow. Tote: £3.30. DF: £1.90. CSF: £3.79.

3.30 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Pyramis Prince (J Osborne, 5-1); 2, Top Wave (2-1 fav); 3, Thuhool (8-1). 8 ran. ½l, 3½l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £4.90; £1.10, £1.10, £3.20. DF: £11.80. CSF: £15.22. Tricast: £72.41.

Jackpot: £2,750.60 (0.1 winning ticket; pool of £3,486.70 carried forward to Exeter today).

Placepot: £3,716.60. Quadpot: not won (pool of £53.60 carried forward to Exeter today).

Southwell

Going: soft

12.15 (2m hdle) 1, Elegant Friend (A Maguire, 10-1); 2, March's Law (7-2); 3, Macedonas (3-1 fav). 14 ran. ¾l, sh hd. M Tompkins. Tote: £8.70; £2.60, £2.40, £2.60. DF: £24.80. CSF: £46.60.

12.45 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Tyrone Bridge (D Bridgwater, 9-1); 2, Leinthall Princess (9-1); 3, Welsh Lustre (4-6 fav). 10 ran. Hd, sh hd. N Walker. Tote: £9.80; £2.10, £1.60, £1.40. DF: £32.70. CSF: £82.78.

1.15 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Flamewood (D Bridgwater, 7-4 jt-fav); 2, Thibaain (11-1); 3, Luke Akura (7-2). 6 ran. 3l, 4l. Mrs D Haine. Tote: £2.20; £2.70, £15.40. DF: £16.20. CSF: £18.44.

1.45 (2m ch) 1, Roc Color (J Railton, 2-1); 2, Boesburg (5-1). 3 ran. NR: Heathview, Highly Decorated. 14l. C Brooks. Tote: £2.30. DF: £3.30. CSF: £8.01. Only 2 finished.

2.15 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Quelque Chose (A Maguire, 5-4 fav); 2, Erlemo (8-1); 3, Victor Romeo (33-1). 14 ran. ½l, dist. B Meehan. Tote: £2.60; £1.10, £1.30, £4.50. DF: £7.00. CSF: £12.26.

2.45 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Duchess Of Tubber (F Leahy, 100-30); 2, Tribal Ruler (5-1); 3, We're In The Money (12-1). Don't Buck 15-8 fav (f). 7 ran. 20l, 20l. R Fisher. Tote: £6.10; £3.40, £2.50. DF: £11.90. CSF: £18.60.

3.15 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Fortunes Course (A Maguire, 9-2); 2, Cappuccino Girl (20-1); 3, Grunge (5-2 fav). 9 ran. NR: Glandalane Lady. Hd, 7l. J King. Tote: £4.90; £2.00, £4.80, £1.10. DF: £54.20. Trio: £92.80. CSF: £72.29. Tricast: £247.07.

Placepot: £183.80. Quadpot: £21.20.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Exeter: 12.50 Early Star. 1.20 Beresfords Girl. Lingfield Park: 12.40 Calisar, No What I Mean, Prince Rodney. 1.10 Fair Ella.

THE TIMES
SPORTS SERVICE

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Rob Hughes expects Bulgaria to offer a fierce test on a controversial debut

All eyes turn to the Welsh boy Jones

Wales, after humiliations in Georgia and Moldavia, are fighting for survival in the European championship tonight against Bulgaria, one of the class teams of the World Cup finals in the United States last summer, but it may be hard, in the Arms Park, the country's national stadium in Cardiff, to get into the *hwyl* of the struggle for Welsh football.

Before the Welsh can show, in the words of their captain for this match, Ian Rush, and of the Football Association of Wales motto — "the best play is team play" — that they can defeat the spectacular individuals from the former Eastern Bloc, everybody's attention will be taken, irresistably, by Peter Vincent Jones and Hristo Stoichkov.

Vinnie Jones and Stoichkov are as bad as one another, but Stoichkov is much better. They are volatile men — Stoichkov has come back to the game from a *sine die* ban, Vinnie just keeps on coming back — but while Stoichkov walks with a gunslinger's swagger, knowing that, with a throw of those hips or a second of that left foot, he can destroy an entire opposition, Jones — whose walk is, well, the stomp of a hod carrier — is merely into destruction.

Jones was accused in a Cardiff restaurant on Sunday night of conduct and language unbecoming a true Welshman. The taunt was intended for, as everyone now knows, tonight he becomes the fiftieth Jones boy to represent Wales and the first to do so with no birthright and scant ancestry.

He replaces Barry Horne, who has sweated blood close to 50 times for his homeland, on the basis of having found a grandfather born in North Wales. This after Jones had attempted, without avail, to find any Irish blood in his lineage.

No matter. He has found a spare inch on his tattooed flesh to incorporate the dragon and he is playing up to his intimidating reputation. "Gazza was a big name when I played him," Vinnie told the Press. "I squeezed his nuts, then squeezed his ego. I might do the same to this Stoichkov."

Ouch! There are Welshmen already incensed by this latest trick of the birth certificate to obtain a player, among them those who ask why Mike Smith, their English manager, should stoop to honouring such a bruising campaigner with the Welsh shirt.

I have a lot of time and respect for Smith, respect that he earned in his first spell as Wales's team manager. However, the crudeness of Jones's published remarks and the record that has disfigured his time in his English heartland do not justify incorporating him in the embattled heart of even a small and now desperate country. It is abdication of the worst kind.

Yet if it is not to be Stoichkov, a man himself capable of dreadful spite, whom Jones comes up against, one hopes, with his reputation, that it is not Luboslav Penev. He has just completed his first international game for over two years after an operation to remove a *malignant tumour* from his left testicle. Penev took part in the 4-1 defeat of Moldavia in Sofia that placed the Bulgarians at the top of group seven. He is the one change from the Bulgarian side that eliminated Germany from the World Cup a the quarter-final stage, a side that only fools would consider to comprise Stoichkov and ten others.

The fact is that Emil Kostadinov is an athletic, reliable goalscorer. Trifon Ivanov is a Jones-like warrior in the Bulgarian defence and Yordan Letchkov, the bald midfield player who stands out for his technique in Germany's *Bundesliga*, was one of the most rhythmic playmakers in USA '94.

Welsh hopes have less to do with footballing skill than they have with human nature. Can Rush and his team recapture enough spirit and enough collective determination to drive the shock of Tbilisi, where they were humbled by Georgia, out of their system?

There is a bigger question: can Bulgaria re-emerge as the team that defeated Argentina as well as Germany in the World Cup? To do so, they have to rid their bodies of any fatigue that so many managers claim have clung to players who reached the semi-finals in the United States. They have also become richer men: Stoichkov, for example, owns restaurants aplenty in Sofia. In addition, this is the first Bulgarian international out of their country since they returned home in the summer. So it will be up to Wales to test them, one hopes fairly, for any mental or physical disinclination to play their hearts out at the Arms Park.

Clearly, unless Bulgaria revert to the mood that made them, before this summer, poor travellers. Wales will be on the rack tonight. They will need all of the recent improved form of Neville Southall in goal, all of the wisdom and sniper's ability of Rush, and anything Mark Hughes can offer, remembering that he, too, would be best advised to mix skill rather than fight with the opposition. But, inevitably, the talk will not leave the new boy. "He has trained with tremendous enthusiasm," the manager said. "Some of his tackles were wrong; in the past, they have been dreadful. He frightens people, but there is no malice. He is playing the part."

The new boy? Our — and, from tonight, Wales's — Jones.

HUW EVANS



Smith, right, keeps a watchful eye as he puts Jones, his controverial selection, through his paces in training yesterday

WALES: N Southall (Everton); M Bowen (Norwich City), M Aizlewood (Charlton), V Jones (Wimbledon), C Coleman (Crystal Palace), A Melville (Swansea), D Phillips (Nottingham Forest), D Saunders (Aston Villa), I Rush (Liverpool), M Hughes (Manchester United), G Speed (Leeds United).

BULGARIA: B Mikhailov (Manchurian); I Kinakov (Lendel), Z Iankov (Levski Sofia), T Tzvetanov (Levski Sofia), T Ivanov (Real Betis), I Iordanov (Sporting Lisbon), E Kostadinov (FC Porto), H Stoichkov (Barcelona), L Penev (Valencia), I Letchkov (SV Hamburg), K Balakov (Sporting Lisbon)

GROUP SEVEN

RESULTS: Georgia 0 Moldavia 1, Wales 2 Albania 0, Moldavia 3 Wales 2; Bulgaria 2 Georgia 0; Albania 1 Germany 2; Georgia 5 Wales 0; Bulgaria 4 Moldavia 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
Moldavia	3	2	0	1	6	6	6
Georgia	3	1	0	2	5	3	3
Germany	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Wales	3	1	0	2	4	8	3
Albania	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

FIXTURES: Today: Wales v Bulgaria; Moldavia v Germany; Albania v Georgia. Dec 18: Germany v Albania 1995: Mar 29: Georgia v Germany; Bulgaria v Wales; Albania v Moldavia. Apr 26: Germany v Wales; Moldavia v Bulgaria, Georgia v Albania. Jun 7: Bulgaria v Germany; Wales v Georgia; Moldavia v Albania. Sept 6: Germany v Georgia, Wales v Moldavia; Albania v Bulgaria. Oct 7: Bulgaria v Albania. Oct 8: Germany v Moldavia. Oct 11: Wales v Germany Nov 15: Germany v Bulgaria, Albania v Wales, Moldavia v Georgia.

RADIO CHOICE

Wodehouse on the golf course

The Oldest Member: A Mixed Threesome. *Radio 4, 12.25pm.*

It is a sure sign that Christmas is just around the corner when Radio 4 serves up something delectable by P.G. Wodehouse. Even if golfing is not your cup of punch, you should not feel excluded from this new series about the rib-tickling things that can happen while trying to drop a ball into a hole in the grass. Maurice Denham plays the venerable teller of tales in a clubhouse. *A Mixed Threesome* is a cautionary tale about the dire consequences of learning to play golf only when the sap of youthful enthusiasm has stopped rising. Like measles, says Wodehouse, *golf should* be caught when young.

Music of the Americas. *Radio 3, 2.00pm.*

I cannot pretend that this three-part exploration of the musical traditions of the New World is dynamically presented. Ivan Moody knows his stuff; what is lacking is enthusiasm. There is wonder in his words, but not in his voice. In today's programme about the early 18th-century Italian composer Domenico Zipoli, there are facts that even non-musicologists will find fascinating. Zipoli, in the company of Jesuits, took his talents to South America. Vast quantities of his manuscripts were discovered during 20th-century restoration work on a Bolivian church. His religious music is still performed — not by modern European early music specialists, however, but by descendants of the Chiquita Indians who were converted to Christianity 300 years ago.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes with the Early Breakfast Show 6.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lynn Parsons with the Lunchtime Show, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Goodier 4.00 Nicky Campbell with Drivetime, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session, presented by Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq 9.00 Chris Morris 10.00 Mark Radcliffe. Midnight Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce, including at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 8.00 Eurotalk in Concert: pioneering Breton band, Ti Jaz 8.30 Songs Sung In ... John Howson explores England's rich heritage of traditional singing 9.00 Sun, Salsa and Samba: music of the Andes 9.30 Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00-5.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme with Peter Allen, including at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine with Chris Choi, including at 10.35 Euronews 11.00 Natural History 12.00 Midday with Mair, including at 12.34pm Moneycheck, with Liz Barclay 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, including at 7.20 the day's sport in full 7.35 Trevor Brooking's Football Night: Wales v Bulgaria in the European Championships 10.05 News Talk, with Jeremy Vine 11.00 Night Extra, including at 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours, with Carole Malone 2.00-5.00 Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 *Treasure Island* 7.30 World of Music 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 It's Your Business 8.30 Megamix 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Country Style 9.30 Crisis in the Family 9.45 Sports 10.00 News 10.07 Omnibus 10.30 Jazz for the Asking 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 News 12.10pm Words of Faith 12.15 New Ideas 12.35 Artists in a Nutshell 12.45 Sports 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 *Treasure Island* 2.45 G[illegible]s Books 3.00 News 3.15 From Our Own Correspondent 3.30 It's a Funny Old World 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business 5.15 BBC English 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 Kaleidoskop 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Th World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 Business 10.15 Sports International 10.45 Sports 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Multitrack 12.00 News 12.15am The Greenfield Collection 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Waveguide 1.45 Farming World 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Sports International 3.00 News 3.15 Sports 3.30 Assignment 4.00 Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 Gardening Forum (r) 8.00 The Criss Messiah: from St Paul's, Knightsbridge 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Paul Coyte 10.00 N.J. Williams 2.00-6.00am Janey Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather 7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Anon (Sarum chant; Veni redempton gentium; Tallis Scholars under Peter Phillips); Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis: Philharmonia Orchestra under Leonard Slatkin); Haydn (String Quartet in D, Op 20 No 4: Melos Quartet); John Field (Irish Dance, Go to the Devil: Miceal O'Rourke, piano); Schubert (Overture Rosamunde: Chamber Orchestra of Europe under Claudio Abbado); Milhaud (Concertino d'hiver: Christian Lindberg, trombone; New Stockholm Chamber Orchestra under Ollo Kamu)

9.00 **Composer of the Week:** Telemann. Including Concerto polonais; Methodical Sonata for flute; Violin Concerto in E; Trio Sonata in C minor, Essercizii musici

10.00 **Midweek Choice:** Widor (Allegro, Symphony No 6, Op 42); Messiaen (Fantaisie burlesque); Glière (Concerto for coloratura soprano and orchestra); Schubert (Sonata in A minor, D821, Arpeggione); Haydn (Trumpet Concerto in E flat); Mozart (*Les petits riens, K Anh 10*); Chopin (Fantasy on Polish National Airs)

12.00 **The BBC Orchestras:** BBC Concert Orchestra under Alfred Walter (r)

1.00pm **News; Concert Hall:** Vellinger Quartet performs Haydn (String Quartet in B flat, Op 71 No 1); Ravel (String Quartet in F)

2.00 **Music of the Americas:** See Choice

3.00 **Record Review:** Bernard Keeffe compares recordings of Beethoven's opera, *Fidelio*

4.00 **Choral Evensong,** live from Bristol Cathedral

5.00 **The Music Machine,** presented by Brian Beattie

5.15 **In Tune,** with Richard Baker. Sullivan (Overture The Yeoman of the Guard); Brahms (Intermezzo in E flat, Op 117); Ireland (The Holy Boy); Bizet (Symphony in C, first movement)

7.30 **Elgar — The Dream of Gerontius:** The London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra under Colin Davis, with Anne Sofie von Otter, Thomas Moser, Anthony Michaels-Moore

9.15 **Invisible Cities:** Italo Calvino's *Invisible Cities*

9.30 **Joanna MacGregor,** piano: Bach (Anna Magdalena Notebook, excerpts); Woolrich (Pianobooks 3 and 4); Satie (Gnossiennes 1 and 5; Gymnopedies 1 and 5); Gorecki (Piano Sonata No 1, Op 6); Thelonius Monk, arr MacGregor (Round Midnight; Monk's Point); Dizzy Gillespie/Tadd Danson, arr MacGregor (Good Bait) (r)

10.35 **Ringlets:** Die Walküre. David Holt presents the definitive introduction to Wagner's Ring Cycle

10.45 **Night Waves:** Lisa Jardine assesses the first volume of *The World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre*

11.30-12.30am **Ensemble:** Jill Anderson presents the second recital of French string music. Fauré (Cello Sonata in E minor, Op 108); Poulenc (Cello Sonata)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather

9.00 **News 9.05 Midweek,** with *Times* columnist Libby Purves

10.00-10.30 **News; A Good Read** (FM only): Michèle Roberts and her guests, Anne Karpf and Richard Dean, select three paperbacks

10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only)

10.15 **The Hindu Scriptures** (LW): The Pot of Nectar (r)

10.30 **Woman's Hour,** introduced by Jenni Murray

11.30 **Gardeners' Question Time:** Horticultural questions in Lincolnshire (r)

12.00 **News; You and Yours**

12.25pm **The Oldest Member:** A Mixed Threesome. See Choice 12.55 Weather

1.00 **The World at One**

1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 **News; The Head Man:** Last in the series. With Steve Hodson, Sue Broomfield and June Barrie

2.45 **Treasure Islands:** Michael Rosen presents the first of a two-part children's book quiz from the Cheltenham Literary Festival

3.00 **News; Anderson Country**

4.00 **News 4.05 Kaleidoscope:** Brian Sibley reviews the new British film, *Princess Caraboo*; and *The Yeoman of the Guard* in Cardiff

4.45 **Short Story: Grave Appearance,** by George Wheeler

5.00 **PM 5.45 Party Political Broadcast** by the Liberal Democrat Party 5.50 Shipping 5.55 Weather

6.00 **News 6.30 Beachcomber . . . By the Way:** Adventures of characters created by the humorist J.B. Morton

7.00 **News 7.05 The Archers**

7.20 **Lost Childhoods:** No Time to Play. Focus on the thousands of children in Britain who care for an ailing parent

7.45 **Medicine Now,** with Geoff Watts (r)

8.15 **Costing the Earth:** Environmental magazine

8.45 **The Return of Sherlock Holmes:** The Dancing Man. The third of four classic mysteries starring Clive Merrison as Holmes and Michael Williams as Dr Watson. A child's scribble brings tragedy to an old Norfolk family. With Peter Tuddenham, Christopher Good and Diana Hunter (r)

9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 **The World Tonight**

10.45 **Book at Bedtime:** Brazzaville Beach. Fiona Shaw reads the fourth of a ten-part adaptation of William Boyd's story

11.00 **Magic Moments:** In 1962, Roy Thomson created the *Sunday Times* colour supplement (r)

11.30-12.00 **The Locker Room** (FM only): Men and their mothers; widowers' rights (r)

11.30-12.00 **Today in Parliament** (LW only)

12.00-12.43 **News,** incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

FA gives way but stays defiant

By Russell Kempson

TOTTENHAM Hotspur must still pay the £1.5 million fine imposed by the Football Association for financial irregularities. However, it was confirmed yesterday that the FA Cup ban and six-point deduction from their FA Carling Premiership total have been annulled.

After a five-hour meeting of a new FA commission, it announced, begrudgingly, that only the fine of the original three-pronged penalty would stand. As recommended by an independent arbitration panel on Friday, the ban and deduction were dropped.

The conclusion of the five-month saga represents a significant milestone in English football, with the authority of the FA, its ruling body, called into question as never before. How can it expect to govern effectively when any club with substantial persistence and financial backing can successfully challenge its right to punish offenders as it sees fit?

Predictably, the FA announced its decision in sombre tones. A spokesman said: "The commission has confirmed that the fine of £1.5 million will stand. It expressed regret, however, that it was bound by the independent arbitrators to limit the punishment. Tottenham had engaged in wholesale abuse of Football League rules."

Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, expressed relief that the unsavoury episode was over but felt little sympathy for the FA. "As much as we like standing up and fighting for our rights, we're all sick and tired of it and we can now get on with other things," he said. "On balance, the law has come down in our favour, which is all we ever wanted.

"It is quite clear that the FA is still resentful but sometimes, on Saturdays, we have to be graceful when we lose and shake the hands of our opponents. Quite frankly, I don't really feel that way inclined today."

Tottenham were originally found guilty of financial irregularities, during the pre-Sugar period from 1983 to 1989, by an FA commission during the summer. They were fined £600,000, banned from the FA Cup and deducted 12 points. On appeal, the fine was increased to £1.5 million and the deduction reduced to six points, however, the Cup suspension stood.

Sugar has always maintained that the penalties were unfair, given that the offences occurred under a previous administration. On Friday, he appeared to be mostly vindicated when the arbitration panel — agreed to by both parties — quashed the ban and deduction. However, he said he may still fight the fine.

Graham Kelly, chief executive of the FA, remained equally defiant, hinting that it may again impose Cup bans or points deductions if deemed suitable. "Make no mistake, it is such punishments that clubs care about most passionately. They are the real deterrents and the FA's resolve to fight financial abuses, wherever they are and whichever form they take, is now stronger than ever."



Kelly: unrepentant



Sugar: little sympathy

Ferguson costs Everton £4 million

By Russell Kempson

DUNCAN FERGUSON was transferred to Everton from Rangers yesterday for a club-record fee of £4 million. Joe Royle, the Everton manager, has satisfied himself that the centre forward, who has led a chequered existence in Scotland, on and off the pitch, can become a reformed character away from Glasgow.

Ferguson, 22, has played on loan for Everton since October 5, when he made his debut in a drawn Coca-Cola Cup game at Portsmouth. Everton, then managed by Mike Walker, went out of the competition 4-3 on aggregate and Ferguson failed to find the net in his six matches for Walker.

However, Royle's arrival last month has not only signalled an upturn in fortunes for Everton, who have taken ten points from four games in the FA Carling Premiership. Ferguson has scored two goals during that run, including one in the 2-0 win over Liverpool, and Royle has been impressed by his all-round contribution.

"Duncan is a player of immense potential," Royle said. "He has had his problems, but hopefully they are behind him now. I don't think he's as bad as he's been painted — he couldn't be. He's certainly not blameless, but I believe his problems have been exaggerated out of all proportion."

Ferguson, who has signed a 4½-year contract at a salary reputed to be £6,000 per week, has a 12-match suspension hanging over him for allegedly head-butting Jock McStay, of Raith Rovers, while playing for Rangers in April. His appeal is to be heard next month and the Scottish FA insists that, if he is unsuccessful, the ban will apply in England.

"It is probably good for Duncan to get out of Scotland," Royle said. "He had become a bit of a marked man, not necessarily on the pitch but wherever else he went."

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, has re-emphasised he did nothing wrong during the £1.57 million transfer of John Jensen from Brondby, of Denmark, in August 1992. It has been alleged that Graham accepted a payment of £285,000 from the deal, which he mistook to be an "unsolicited gift", and when he realised the error, he informed the Inland Revenue and returned the money to Arsenal.

"I have not profited from any transfer transactions at Arsenal," Graham said. "If you listen to that, it says everything."

☐ Cardiff City have been warned that they could be shut down by the world governing body, Fifa, if they seek a court injunction over their banishment from the Allbright Bitter Cup by the Football Association of Wales.

THE TIMES

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هكذا من الأصل

Tripping the light fantastic with Scarlett

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Scarlett O'Hara rests her tiny, fragile head against a big white pillow, and smiles radiantly. She has just suffered a dreadful ordeal — a capsized boat, a near drowning, and then heroic rescue by the husband she is determined to win back — yes, Rhett! What, did you think it was all over? He bawled for her across the green choppy waves, "Scarlett!" while she bobbed up and down yelling "Rhett!", and then he reached her, caught her in his arms and stood up in three feet of water. Carrying her unconscious to a convenient hut, he laid her on a pallet, stripped her to the buff, and when she woke up and smiled, promptly did the conjugal business with the three dots.

Now Scarlett wakes up in her mother-in-law's house, and the thin gruel of **Scarlett** (Sky One) seems faintly chewy for once. Did Scarlett really do sex in a hut with Rhett? Or was it an illusion, an out-of-body experience, due to a clout on the head from a wayward boom? Either way, the older woman's Charleston delicacy demands euphemism. "It's just like the poets say," says Scarlett, in her sweetest Southern accent. "Sometimes, out of the darkest danger and fear comes the most dazzlin' and beautiful light."

Scarlett, as everyone knows, is the sequel to *Gone With the Wind*. And as everyone suspected, it's a turkey with legs. An incredible eight hours long, it stars the midget sized Joanne Whalley-Kilmer as Scarlett, the strapping, weasel-faced Timothy Dalton as Rhett, and a lot of other pale shadows and impostors in subsidiary roles. Stripped of the epic Civil War background — of death, adversity, danger, slavery, the saintliness of Melanie, and the burning of Atlanta — the story merely concerns two passably attractive people who love each other really, but annoyingly can't admit it simultaneously.

The best scene in last night's first instalment concerned Rhett's manly ripping of Scarlett's frocks — it was almost thrilling. Scarlett dressed like an accident in a furbelow factory, and continued to do so, despite heavier hints than Rhett's. I can't imagine what will happen next, and frankly I don't give a damn. But for anyone picking up the story tonight, the hut incident means that Scarlett, abandoned again by Rhett, now throws up in the mornings. Whatever can this mean? (Dot, dot, dot.)

Real out-of-body experiences were the subject of **Network First** (ITV), a film by Anthony Thomas called, imaginatively, *Between Life and Death*. Thomas specialises in twilight zones between science and mysticism, generally in an American context — psychology and satanism, scientific quests for immortality — and in this latest film he examined the dazzlin' and beautiful light mentioned by Scarlett, which normally means not that you are enjoying unexpected conjugal felicity, but that you are dying, and that your brain is switching the lights off when all the other organs have gone.

Near-death experiences (tunnels, light and euphoria) are scientifically explicable in terms of neurology, but it's no good telling this to people who've floated above their lifeless bodies and been cuddled by God. In fact, it's no good telling this to most people, who naturally prefer the spiritual explanation to the dying bonce.

Anyway, if you thought *Top Gun* was a numbskull movie, here's why. *Between Life and Death* revealed that as part of their training, would-be naval pilots have their brains drained deliberately under lab conditions, thus accidentally simulating the near-death experience. Inside a large domed building, a pilot is strapped inside a futuristic capsule on the end of a massive arm. The arm turns, and the capsule whizzes around. The temptation to shout "Whee!" is soon quashed when the acceleration steps up, and the capsule whizzes faster, until the centrifugal force on the end of this big stick is nine times that of gravity. At which point, if they have any sense at all, the pilots generally pass out, and see stars.

The pilots' experience differs in one important respect from the near-death brigade, however: they don't thereafter dedicate their lives to God (they are just a bit wary in future of people saying, "Sit in this capsule and I'll swing you around; look, it's fun!"). But with near-death experiences, subsequent religious conversion is almost guaranteed. In ITV's drama series *Finney* last Thursday, viewers will recollect that hoodlum Bobo Simpson (John Woodvine) recovered from his brain injury and asked for a Bible. He had seen God, and the deity had apparently ordered him to stop killing people in Newcastle, and to wear a snappy bicycle helmet over his head bandages, with "BOBO" printed on it. (He works in mysterious ways.)

Anthony Thomas interviewed a man called Ronald Reagan (not the real one) who had died in an ambulance and dropped in on hell. He was now a successful preacher, so it was reasonable to be suspicious of his well-practised testimony (you expected him to start singing "Sit down, you're rocking the boat" at any moment), but his story was terribly good — his delinquency, his badness, the bloody fight in a store he intended to rob, and then the sulphur and burning bodies in a fiery pit. Old friends called to him in agony, "Don't come here, Ronnie! There's no escape!" Experts dismiss near-death hallucinations of pretty gardens and fiery pits as culturally inherited — which is a theory, incidentally, that can be tested in future centuries when people return from death with the words still ringing in their ears, "Don't come here! You are forced to watch *Scarlett* for eight hours at a time!"

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (71337)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (29983153)

9.05 Kilroy (s) (8826714)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (9999646) **10.05 Good Morning with Anne and Nick** (s) (46839608)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Ross King (s) (6233714) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (14491288)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (84240)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (35667530) **1.50 The Great British Quiz** hosted by Philip Hayton (s) (35678646)

2.15 Cagney and Lacey. Christine and Mary Beth have contrasting Christmases. Starring Sharon Gless and Tyne Daly (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3822795) **3.05 Movie Magic.** The men who set up spectacular screen explosions (9391248) **3.25 Lifeline.** Jane Asher with an appeal on behalf of the National Autistic Society (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6657004)

3.35 Cartoon (2984004) **3.45 Noddy** (s) (4939714) **3.55 Mortimer and Arabel** (s) (2988820) **4.10 Dinobabies** (5752530) **4.35 Growing Up Wild.** Terry Nutkins looks for peculiar looking and shaped animals (s) (8203288)

5.00 Newsround (3812462) **5.10 Grange Hill.** Comprehensive school drama serial (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8396207)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (412608). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

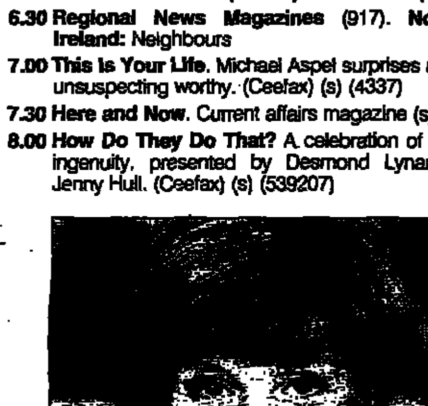
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (337)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (917). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel surprises another unsuspecting worthy. (Ceefax) (s) (4337)

7.30 Here and Now. Current affairs magazine (s) (801)

8.00 How Do They Do That? A celebration of human ingenuity, presented by Desmond Lynam and Jenny Hull. (Ceefax) (s) (539207)



Anne Robinson on BBC programmes (8.45pm)

8.45 Points of View with Anne Robinson. (Ceefax) (s) (787527)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5288)

9.30 Between the Lines. The first of a two-part story starring Neil Pearson as the trouble-prone troubleshooter, in Belgium undercover as a right-wing gun-runner. (Ceefax) (s) (579627)

10.25 FILM: Obsessed (1992) starring Shannen Doherty and William Devane. A woman falls for a bachelor and quickly succumbs to an unhealthy obsession. Directed by Jonathan Sanger (6805284). **Northern Ireland:** Pipe Bands 10.55 Film: Obsessed 12.30am-1.25 Beverley Craven; **Wales:** Year of Change 11.15 Film: Obsessed 12.45-1.35 Sade Live

11.55 Sade Live In San Diego. The singer in concert at San Diego's Open Air Theatre (s) (530443)

12.45am Weather (6331912). Ends at **12.50**

2.00-3.00 BBC Select: Voluntary Sector Television (94991)

BBC2

7.00 Tales Of the Tooth Fairies (r) (4163801) **7.05 Funnybones** (r) (s) (4162172) **7.10 Thundercats** (r) (2654795) **7.35 It'll Never Work** (r). (Ceefax) (8347882)

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (9595530) **8.15 The Record** (4990066)

8.35 Discovering Animals (r) (9682443) **9.00 Lynn Marshall's Everyday Yoga** (r) (7054462) **9.10 Crawshaw Paints Oils** (8397511) **9.35 The Way of the Lakes** (r) (6747998) **10.00 Playdays** (s) (5273820)

10.25 FILM: It Started In Naples (1960). Directed by Michael Shavelson (58371240)

12.00 Days of Waiting (39153) **12.30 Working Lunch** (89646) **1.00 Fingermouse** (r) (44156356) **1.15 The Rich Traditions** (53586578) **1.40 Making Tracks** (r) (80018559)

2.10 Songs of Praise (r) (Ceefax) (s) (92276240) **2.35 Next** (s) (8623714)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster With Nick Ross** (8967559)

3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (4934269)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (530) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (714)

5.00 Esther (s) (5443) **5.30 Catchword** (s) (406)

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (Ceefax) (s) (572191)

6.45 Lifeswaps (s) (598801). **Wales:** Human Rights, Human Wrongs 6.55 *Othello* 7.20-9.25Football: Wales v Bulgaria

7.15 Shakespeare — The Animated Tales. *Othello.* (Ceefax) (s) (248646)

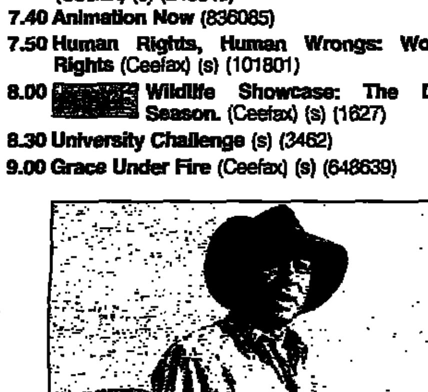
7.40 Animation Now (836085)

7.50 Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Women's Rights (Ceefax) (s) (101801)

8.00 CHOICE **Wildlife Showcase: The Deadly Season.** (Ceefax) (s) (1627)

8.30 University Challenge (s) (3462)

9.00 Grace Under Fire (Ceefax) (s) (648639)



Ernie Dingo in northwest Australia (9.25pm)

9.25 CHOICE **Great Journeys: Kimberley.** (Ceefax) (s) (8697284)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (328375)

11.15 Human Rights, Human Wrongs (r) (137795)

11.25 Tuning In (248240). **Wales:** Grace Under Fire

11.45 What's a Radio Wave?

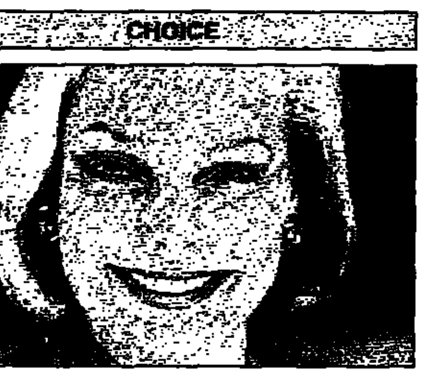
11.55 Weather (628882)

12.00 News followed by **The Midnight Hour** (2156467). Ends at **12.55am**

4.00-4.15 BBC Select: Benefits Agency Today (r). (Ceefax and signing) (70327467)

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CHOICE



Judy Lewis, Clark Gable's daughter (ITV, 9.00pm)

Hollywood Kids
ITV, 9.00pm

The team that gave us *Hollywood Women* turns its attention to their offspring. The format is the same, a montage of slickly-edited soundbites which tend to be high on gloss and short on substance. A better film might have resulted from having fewer contributors and letting each have a longer say. The story of Judy Lewis, born to Loretta Young and unaware for years that her father was Clark Gable, is a programme in itself. Viewers can nonetheless amuse themselves counting the celebrity marriages (Mickey Rooney, Lana Turner and Zsa Zsa Gabor head the list with eight apiece) and meeting the permanently aspiring brothers and sisters of the much more famous Michelle Pfeiffer, John Travolta and Eddie Murphy.

Great Journeys
BBC2, 9.25pm

Ernie Dingo, the Aboriginal actor from *Crocodile Dundee II*, travels across his favourite piece of Australia. This is the Kimberley, an isolated area in the far northwest. The landscape, unspoilt and often ruggedly beautiful, would be worth a film on its own. But there is no shortage of human interest either. Films about Aboriginals and their land inevitably become tales of oppression by the white man and Dingo does not break this mould. Happily, however, this is no party political broadcast. His celebration of Janadamarra, an Aboriginal hero of the 1890s who masterminded a breakout from a white prison, is conducted without rancour. His basic plea is for the Aboriginals to be allowed to keep their culture.

Dispatches
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The current affairs series visits Lancashire and examines allegations that the county's social workers have been exceeding their brief. In one case a mother was told to give up her degree course, abandon her driving lessons and stop applying for jobs. The instruction came after her husband was accused of abusing her children by a previous marriage. In another case a woman deemed to be a threat to her children was forced to live apart from them, and also told how many hours a day she could spend with her husband. Rejecting the criticism, Joan Humble, chairwoman of the Lancashire social services committee, says social workers face difficult decisions, but in the vast majority of cases they get it right.

Wildlife Showcase: The Deadly Season
BBC2, 8.00pm

The dry season has been drier than usual in Kruger National Park in South Africa and thirsty animals are converging from miles around on one small waterhole. The cameras are poised for an engrossing film. The hippos have been so badly affected by the drought that they have taken to eating elephant dung. Hunger makes them careless. Lions pounce on a stray calf. The rest of the hippo herd comes to the rescue and the attackers are repelled. A buffalo, despite its formidable bulk and lethal horns, is not so lucky, though it takes several lions to down the beast and turn it into dead meat. After that the water monitor's pursuit of barbel fish lying trapped between the bodies of two hippos is an anticlimax. Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00 GMTV (6000820)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep. Shopping game show hosted by Dale Winton (8303172) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (5267269)

10.00 The Time ... The Place. Topical discussion series chaired by John Stapleton (s) (7332646)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (56295288) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1213341)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (8184733)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (8169424) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (53553240)

1.55 Capital Woman presented by Anneka Rice (s) (80001269) **2.25 A Country Practice.** Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (92208849) **2.50 The Young Doctors** (2032171)

3.20 ITN News headlines. (Teletext) (6669849) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6651820)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (s) (2970801) **3.40 Wizadora** (s) (4925511) **3.50 Britt Allcroft's Magic Adventures of Mumfie** (2981917) **4.05 Warner Brothers Cartoon** starring Bugs Bunny (5086085) **4.10 Daffy Duck's Thanks For Giving** (4152608) **4.40 Woof!.** (Teletext) (s) (8389646)

5.10 After 5. (Teletext) (4598612)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (164612)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewer access slot (413578)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (733)

6.30 London Tonight. (Teletext) (135)

7.00 Brighton Belles. Sheila Hancock, Wendy Craig, Sheila Gish and Jean Boht star as Britain's answer to the *Golden Girls* (s) (2733)



Liz Dawn, Bill Tarmy and Dave King (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Vera (Liz Dawn) is delighted when Jack's (Bill Tarmy) brother, Clifford (Dave King), pays a visit. (Teletext) (s) (269)

8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight (s) (9135)

9.00 CHOICE **Hollywood Kids: Children of the Rich and Famous.** (Teletext) (s) (9379)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (34608) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (801733)

10.40 FILM: Notorious (1992) starring John Shea and Jenny Robertson. A made-for-television version of Alfred Hitchcock's espionage thriller. Directed by Colin Bucksey (55497172)

12.35am Magnum. The Hawaii private eye is asked to help a Japanese woman to find her missing American husband. Starring Tom Selleck (6882844)

1.30 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (s) (61028)

2.00 The Beat. Music and movie magazine (s) (94919)

3.00 The Album Show (s) (23776)

4.00 Beyond Reality. Adventures of two investigative parapsychologists (r) (99405)

4.30 The Chrystal Rose Show (r) (s) (22641)

5.00 America's Top Ten (s) (91860)

5.30 ITN Morning News (84844). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Terrytoons. Classic cartoon series (7275153)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (30761)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (44085)

9.30 Entertaining the Troops presented by Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour and Frances Langford. The story of how Hollywood entertained the troops during the Second World War, with clips from virtually all the screen and musical stars on stage at home or on the front line (r) (29207)

11.00 Profiles of Nature: Wilderness Magic. A celebration of the work of nature cinematographer Dan Gibson, featuring film of timber wolves, loons and white-throated sparrows (r) (80202)

12.00 House To House. Maya Even reports on yesterday's business in both Houses (64849)

12.30 Sesame Street (97882) **1.30 Hullabaloo** (s). Followed by **Dig and Dug** (s) (73085)

2.00 FILM: Run For Cover (1955, b/w) starring James Cagney, John Derek and Viveca Lindfors. Western drama about a rootless, former bad man who is appointed sheriff of a small town and has to deal with his young deputy, who wants a life on the other side of the law. Directed by Nicholas Ray (385714)

3.40 Table Tennis. A short about the sport, seen from an exotic viewpoint (5244004)

4.00 Waterways. Dick Warner concludes his travels across Ireland on inland waterways. (Teletext) (s) (998)

4.30 Fifteen To One. (Teletext) (s) (882)

5.00 Ricki Lake. Chat show, this week making judgments on disputed relationships. (Teletext) (s) (5561646)

5.50 Terrytoons. Cartoon (496801)

6.00 The Crystal Maze. More contestants are guided through the four time zones by Ed Tudor-Pole (r). (Teletext) (s) (82733)

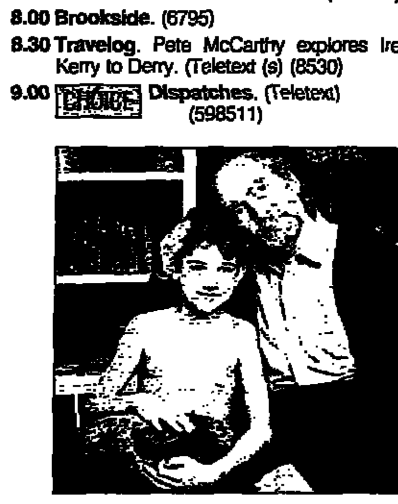
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (956559)

7.50 The Slot. Viewer access series (103269);

8.00 Brookside. (6795)

8.30 Travelog. Pete McCarthy explores Ireland from Kerry to Derry. (Teletext (s) (8530)

9.00 CHOICE **Dispatches.** (Teletext) (598511)



Joseph England and Wojtek Pszoniak (9.45pm)

9.45 Short and Curlies: Chicken Talk. Five days in the life of ten-year-old Joshua, spent with his grandfather — an Auschwitz survivor. Starring Wojtek Pszoniak and Joseph England. (Teletext) (s) (647714)

10.00 NYPD Blue (r). (Teletext) (s) (1578)

11.00 Rory Bremner — Who Else? (s) (826627)

11.40 Moviewatch. Cinemagoers in Luton comment on the latest releases (r) (s) (486608)

12.10am LA Law. American courtroom drama series (s) (2153370)

1.05 FILM: Endangered Species (1982) starring Robert Urich, JoBeth Williams and Peter Coyote. Science-fiction drama about a former New York policeman who goes to Colorado to help a country sheriff to investigate a series of mysterious cattle mutilations. Directed by Alan Rudolph (912370). Ends at **2.50**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (35662085) **2.20** Gardening Time (92283530) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (2032171) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (4598612) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (199917) **10.40** Twilight Zone - The Movie (55497172) **12.35am** A Small Killing (212641) **2.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8417863) **2.50** The Album Show (1369554) **3.45** Jobfinder (5503283) **4.35-5.30** Sport AM (7007115)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (35662085) **2.20** Gardening Time (92283530) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (2032171) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (4598612) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (199917) **10.40** Champions League Review 94 (718849) **11.40** Crime Story (537356) **12.30am** Love and War (63863) **1.00-1.30** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (41776) **4.00** Jobfinder (7623196) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (9717080)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (8169424) **1.25** Home and Away (27344288) **1.50** Poor Little Rich Girl (2279801) **2.50-3.20** Coronation Street (2032171) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (4598612) **6.25** Granada Tonight (199917) **7.00-7.30** Brighton Belles (2733) **10.30** Granada News (801733) **10.40** The Taking of Flight 847 (55497172) **12.35am** A Small Killing (212641) **2.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8417863) **2.50** The Album Show (1369554) **3.45** Jobfinder (5503283) **4.35-5.30** Sport AM (7007115)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55-3.20 Faces in the Dark (8272288) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (4598612) **5.55** Home and Away (434820) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (199917) **10.40** When Every Day Was the Fourth of July (55497172) **12.35am** A Small Killing (212641) **2.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8417863) **2.50** The Album Show (1369554) **3.45** Jobfinder (5503283) **4.35-5.30** Sport AM (7007115)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 3.25-3.30 HTV News (6651820) **6.25-7.00** Wales Tonight (199917) **10.30-10.40** HTV News (801733)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (5267269) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (1213341) **1.55** A Country Practice (35662085) **2.20** Loud and Clear (92283530) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (2032171) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6651820) **5.10** Home and Away (4598612) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Freescreen (493714) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (733) **6.30-7.00** Evening Surgery (135) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (801733) **10.40** Quincy (6324191) **12.00am** A Seasonal Concert from Winchester Cathedral (8097488) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (91880)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (35662085) **2.20-2.50** Look and Cook (92283530) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4598612) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (106172) **6.30-7.00** Runway (135) **10.40** A Mind to Kill (55497172) **12.35am-1.30** The Equalizer (6882844) **2.00** Videofashion (75825) **2.30** The Album Show (98554) **3.30** Noisy Mothers (8482573) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (7228234)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.20pm Westcountry News (5279909) **12.25-12.30** My Story for Christmas (5581220) **1.55** High Road (80001269) **2.25-2.55** Westcountry Focus: The West at Work (92282801) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News; Weather (6651820) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4598612) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (84191) **10.30** Westcountry News; Weather (801733) **10.40** A Mind to Kill (55497172) **12.35am** A Small Killing (212641) **2.25** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (9417863) **2.50** The Album Show (1369554) **3.45** Jobfinder (5503283) **4.35-5.30** Sport AM (7007115)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (35662085) **2.20-2.50** Look and Cook (92283530) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4598612) **5.55** Calendar (106172) **6.30-7.00** Runway (135) **10.40** A Mind to Kill (55497172) **12.35am-1.30** The Equalizer (6882844) **2.00** Videofashion (75825) **2.30** The Album Show (98554) **3.30** Noisy Mothers (8482573) **4.25-5.30** Jobfinder (7228234)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (30761) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (44085) **9.30** Entertaining The Troops (29207) **11.00** Profiles Of Nature (80202) **12.00pm** House To House (64849) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (74714) **1.00** Sesame Street (79269) **2.00** Bitter Harvest (997202) **3.45** High Interest (6522608) **4.30** Gamesmaster (882) **5.00** 5 Pump (9627240) **5.20** 5 Pump (3175117) **5.30** Fifteen To One (462) **6.00** Newyddion (854801) **6.20** Heno (172240) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (245559) **7.25** Pil-droed: Cymru v Bwlgaria (42753527) **9.30** Newyddion (94578) **10.00** Brookside (65578) **10.30** Cutting Edge (81998) **11.30** Dispatches (548462) **12.15am** Ellen (13912)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat (31133356) **8.45** Cartoons (5812153) **9.30** Card Sharks (39068) **10.00** Concentration (1884578) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (7384559) **10.30** Candid Camera (25397) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (22424) **12.00** Urban Peasant (99559) **12.30pm** E Street (39004) **1.00** Falcon Crest (37207) **2.00** Henry Ford (58199) **3.00** Dukes of Hazzard (3100004) **3.50** DJ Kat (5485172) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (7066) **6.00** Gamesworld (6207) **6.30** Blockbusters (7559) **7.00** E Street (8795) **7.30** M*A*S*H (6443) **8.00** Scarlett (2/4) (69820) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (55627) **11.00** David Letterman (180337) **11.45** Chances (295581) **12.45am** Barney Miller (63931) **1.15-1.45** Night Court (60844)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (7003795) **9.30** Entertainment This Week (41288) **10.30** Nightline (25379) **1.30pm** CBS News (96240) **2.30** Parliament Live (30004) **5.00** Live at Five (7924172) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (18573153) **9.30** News Extra (65337) **11.30** CBS News (18578) **12.30am** ABC News (7432844) **1.10** Richard Littlejohn (7946134) **2.30** Parliament Replay (49738) **4.30** CBS News (92318) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (24486)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (6413714) **10.00 The Last of Sheila** (1973) (39040) **12.00 Swing Shift** (1984) (91852) **2.00pm Mister Ten Percent** (1968) (79207) **4.00 Texas Across the River** (1966) (2986) **6.00 Over the Hill** (1991) (59443) **8.00 Far and Away** (1992) (83339917) **10.20 In the Line of Duty: The Price of Vengeance** (1993) (4761153) **11.50 Animal Instincts** (1992) (442530) **1.30am Scorchers** (1990) (3786196) **2.55 Two Faces of Evil** (1993) (3581115) **4.25-6.00 Over the Hill** (1991): As 6pm (528202)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Separate Tables (1958) (51849) **8.00 The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas** (1982) (44341153) **9.55-12.00 The Deep** (1977) (11890820)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Rhapsody in August (1991) (48795) **8.00 Heathcliff — The Movie** (1985) (1856578) **9.15 The Man in the Iron Mask** (1990): Cartoon (364066) **10.15 The Innocents** (1961) (58456827) **12.00 God's Little Acre** (1958) (53174) **2.00pm Houdini** (1953) (665462) **3.45 Heathcliff — The Movie** (1985): As 8am (7215207) **5.00 The Man in the Iron Mask** (1990): As 9.15am (1323578) **5.55 Quicksand: No Escape** (1991) (86582191) **7.30 Special Feature: Sylvester Stallone Special** (9153) **8.00 Running Delilah** (1992) (24443) **9.30 My Cousin Vinny** (1992) (83733) **11.30 Storyville** (1993) (548153) **1.25am American Me** (1992) (77587757) **3.30-6.00 Dr Heckyl and Mr Hype** (1980) (842757)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (4314375) **7.15** WWF Superstars (684443) **8.15** Soccer News (7211085) **8.30** Surfing (37288) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (14443) **10.00** Sailing Race (34207) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (75066) **12.30pm** Football: England B v Republic of Ireland B (26356) **2.30** Rugby (6608) **3.00** Amateur Golf (70462) **4.00** Extreme (66269) **5.00** WWF Challenge (1424) **6.00** Soccer News (552066) **6.15** Cricket (264820) **7.00** FA Cup Second Round Replay (525608) **10.00** Soccer News (605379) **10.15** Rugby (802601) **11.15** Cricket (738998) **12.00** FA Cup Second Round Replay (81844) **2.00am** Rugby (76757) **3.00** Sports Classics (32040080) **3.15** International Cricket, Live: England v Zimbabwe (22388757)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (73172) **8.00** Gymnastics (50545) **9.00** Euroski (97801) **10.00** Powerlifting (79358) **11.00** Truck Racing (82820) **12.00** Euroski (22462) **1.00pm** Eurotennis (26022) **2.00** Eurofun (6733) **2.30** Adventure (98375) **3.30** Equestrianism (76998) **4.30** Supercross (23085) **5.30** Skiing (84022) **6.30** News (6085) **7.00** Ski Jumping (74801) **9.00** Motors (93284) **10.00** Football (698733) **12.30-1.00am** News (34399)

SKY SOAP
8.00am Loving (1914172) **8.30** Peyton Place (1913443) **9.00** As the World Turns (8188462) **10.00** Guiding Light (8260424) **11.00-12.00** Another World (8280288)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Discover Your World (1924559) **12.30pm** Kids Down Under (7583288) **1.00** Roads to Freedom (8284004) **1.30** Cooking in France (7582559) **2.00** American Adventurer (4199511) **2.30** Ticket to Paradise (3262733) **3.00** Discover Your World (4118646) **3.30** Mexico (3274578) **4.00** Roads to Freedom (3253085) **4.30** Kids Down Under (3259269) **5.00** Ticket to Paradise (4113191) **5.30** Cooking in France (3273849) **6.00** Australia (3263482) **6.30** American Adventurer (3254714) **7.00** Discover Your World (4100627) **7.30** Around the World (3250998) **8.00** Travel Guide (7517172) **9.00** Getaway (9567375) **9.30** South Florida (7563424) **10.00** Cruising the Globe (1925288) **10.30** Cooking in France (1901608) **11.00** Getaway (9562820) **11.30-12.00** The Way of Life (4473530)



Marisa Tomei stars in *My Cousin Vinny* (Movie Channel, 9.30pm)

TLC
9.00am The Joy of Painting (3880337) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (4773917) **10.00** Talking Heads (8607714) **10.30** Only Human (7077153) **11.30** Asian Families, Western Culture (6379511) **12.00** Around Seventeen (3893801) **12.30pm** Postnatal Depression (4777733) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (2065004) **1.30** The Joy of Painting (4776004) **2.00** No Place Like Home (6051443) **2.30** Private Lives (4493004) **3.00** Peak. A Precious Wilderness (6070578) **3.30-4.00** It's a Vet's Life (4405849)

UK GOLD
7.00am The Sullivans (9815581) **7.30** Neighbours (6865266) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (3892172) **8.30** EastEnders (3891443) **9.00** The Bill (3882795) **9.30** Buccaneer (6378559) **10.30** When the Boat Comes In (46083004) **11.35** The Sullivans (11485375) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (3802559) **12.30pm** Neighbours (4779191) **1.00** EastEnders (7996062) **1.30** The Bill (4778462) **2.00** Bless This House (6053801) **2.30** Citizen Smith (4495462) **3.00** Knots Landing (6382085) **4.00** Dynasty (6394820) **5.00** Every Second Counts (8766917) **5.35** Top of the Pops: The 1970s (6871714) **5.55** Terry and June (6474608) **6.30** EastEnders (4487443) **7.00** Citizen Smith (6064917) **7.30** Colin's Sandwich (4483627) **8.00** Miss Marple: 4.50 From Paddington (68807511) **10.15** The Bill (1724240) **10.45** Top of the Pops (9330443) **11.25** The Kit Curran Radio Show (2745578) **11.55** Dr Who: Dragonfire (4211820) **12.25am** The Goodies (2546216) **12.55** South of the Border (4582738) **1.55** Shopping at Night (13402554)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Ratkan III (7005424) **6.15** Clyde (691337) **6.45** Casper (690608) **7.15** Head to Head in 3D (3338559) **7.25** Garfield (7497153) **7.55** Saved by the Bell (2118424) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (3536801) **8.40** Tifou (1427424) **8.50** Cococinel (1423608) **9.00** It's Droibee Time (48191) **10.00** Paddington (84375) **11.00** Kitty Cats (17917) **11.30** Barney (18646) **12.00** Ratkan III (17066) **12.30pm** Head to Head in 3D (64525424) **12.40** Garfield and Friends (8129004) **1.10** You Can't Do That on Television (89498733) **1.40** Super Mario Brothers (87631375) **1.50** Tifou (87637569) **2.00** Barney (3527) **2.30** Care Bears (8608) **3.00** Tic Tac Toons (8081375) **3.15** Bobby's World (244578) **3.45** Head to Head in 3D (9765040) **4.00** The Bots Master (2288) **4.30-5.00** Saved by the Bell (1172)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Nickalive! (4312817) **7.15** Grimmy (247378) **7.45** Rugrats (192220) **8.15** Ren and Stimpy (7219827) **8.30** Slimer and the Real Ghostbusters (7689240) **8.45** Nickalive! (7883795) **9.00** Nick Jr (158085) **12.00** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (73608) **12.30pm** Galaxy High School (16801) **1.00** Doug (66862) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (15172) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (9207) **2.30** Smoggies (7578) **3.00** Nick Faves (8714) **3.30** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (9795) **4.00** Best of Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (1530) **4.30** Rugrats (7714) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (1789) **5.30** Doug (8066) **6.00** Grimmy (6207) **6.30** Are You Afraid of the Dark?

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Life in the Wild (4484356) **4.30** Bellamy's Bird's-Eye View (4473240) **5.00** The Munro Show (6042795) **5.30** The Extremists (4497820) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (4752424) **7.00** Predators (5295608) **8.00** Invention (6071207) **8.30** Bush Tucker Man (6060714) **9.00** The Infinite Voyage (5217820) **10.00** The Red Bomb (5227207) **11.00** Terra X: Mountain Demons (6393191) **11.30-12.00** Encyclopedia Galactica (8603998)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Madness of the Heart (1949) (8614004) **2.00pm** The Avengers (8602269) **3.00** My Three Sons (6067004) **3.30** The Beverly Hillbillies (4492375) **4.00** FILM: Pacific Destiny (1956) (6061820) **6.00** The Protectors (4496559) **6.30** Cannon (4298424) **7.30** Scotland Yard (4478795) **8.00** The Avengers (5291882) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (6385172) **9.30** FILM: Age of Innocence (1977): Pacifist teacher David Warner provokes violence in post-First World War Canada (9627646) **11.30** It's Garry Shandling's Show (8690424)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (2137482) **7.00** Living Magazine Highlights (8735172) **8.00** Beautywise (2672511) **8.30** Great Expectations (2671882) **9.00** Chinese Cookery (7132882) **9.35** Definition (6933646) **10.00** Trivia Trap (9684849) **10.30** Susan Powter (2891646) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (8743356) **12.00** The Calendar Fashion Show (1291578) **12.35pm** Kilroy (9587733) **1.30** Bazaar (7675153) **2.00** Agony Hour (9685578) **3.00** Living Magazine (7065530) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (17726578) **4.00** Infatuation UK (5072559) **4.30** Definition (18099356) **4.55** Floyd's American Pie (4149578) **5.30** Kate and Allie (5052795) **6.00** Material World (5059808) **6.30** New Mr and Mrs (5073288) **7.00** Living Magazine (9411172) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9420820) **9.00** Cagney and Lacey (9417356) **10.00** Charlie's Angels (9410443) **11.00-12.00** Love Life (8764849)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00am The Adventures of Tintin (4917) **5.30** Boogies Diner (2424) **6.00** Zorro (9337) **6.30** Through the Keyhole (3917) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (4153) **7.30** The Wonder Years (2801) **8.00** Road To Avonlea (25424) **9.00** Ruth Rendell Mystery: Achilles Heel (28511) **11.00** Lou Grant (85004) **12.00** Rhoda (94283) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (81221) **1.00** GP (20863) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (47028) **2.00** Boogies Diner (51825) **2.30** Big Brother Jake (63880) **3.00** Lou Grant (41134) **4.00** Rhoda (75405) **4.30** The Wonder Years (18028)

MTV
5.00am Wildside (66592) **6.30** The Grind (57733) **7.00** Wildside (55998) **8.00** VJ Ingo (8555271) **11.00** Soul (73269) **12.00** Greatest Hits (48424) **1.00pm** Afternoon Mix (69578) **3.00** The Zig and Zag Show (4530) **3.30** The Report (8410153) **3.45** Cinematic (3460858) **4.00** News at Night (6164917) **4.15** 3 from 1 (6147240) **4.30** Dial MTV (3530) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (65375) **6.30** Bon Jovi — The Hits (95630) **8.00** Most Wanted (26849) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (49153) **10.00** The Report (660998) **10.15** Cinematic (658153) **10.30** News (625375) **10.45** 3 from 1 (613530) **11.00** The End? (64795) **1.00am** Soul (36028) **2.00** The Grind (53263) **2.30** Night Videos (286202)

VH-1
7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (8283375) **9.00** Café (8655882) **12.00** The Bridge (3625066) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9075714) **2.30** Heart and Soul (9723882) **3.30** Into the Music (3140171) **6.00** Prime Cuts (7560337) **7.00** For You (7500882) **8.00** Soul (7519530) **9.00** Ten of the Best (7506066) **10.00** The Bridge (8168608) **11.30** Today's Top Five (4482288) **12.00** The Nightfly (9509641) **2.00am** Prime Cuts (4805318) **3.00** Soul (7243467) **4.00** Ten of the Best (9573950) **5.00** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE
Country music from 8am to 7pm, including at **4.00pm** CMT Delivery Room **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00** Big Ticket

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (45199) **7.00** Asian Morning (38424) **8.30** Buniyaad (33004) **9.00** Gujurati FILM: Bhav Bhav Na Bheru (710849) **12.00** Ghar (65820) **1.00pm** Sambandh (62153) **1.30** Kab Tak Pukaroon (53356) **2.00** Hindi FILM: Farz Aur Kanoon (618917) **5.00** TVA and You (1443) **5.30-6.00** Buniyaad (9578) **7.00** BBCD (1545) **7.30** Zameen Aasman (8443) **8.00** News (9443) **8.30** Sports Programme (6578) **9.00** Hindi FILM: Yaara Dil Daara (454646) **12.00** Asian Morning (981496) **1.35am** Sight and Sound

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT
Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
7.00pm An American Romance (1944) (23495733)
9.20 The Swan (1956) (62117733) **11.20 God Is My Co-Pilot** (1945) (25190356)
1.00am Captains of the Clouds (1942) (14205283) **3.20-5.00 O'Shaughnessy's Boy** (1935) (75642080)

CNN/QVC
CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

RUGBY UNION 40

CAMBRIDGE STUDENT SUSPENDED FOR CODE VIOLATION

SPORT

FOOTBALL 42

FA UPHOLDS £1.5M FINE ON TOTTENHAM

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14 1994

White shines in all-rounder's role in win over Australia A

England finally stop the rot

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

FACED with derision and indifference from without and sinking spirits within, England's cricketers desperately needed a win for their public credibility and private self-esteem. When it came yesterday, amid crowd disorder, controversy and a batting collapse, the exultant faces told all that was necessary of the relief.

Defeating the Australia A team by 31 runs in a World Series Cup fixture here does not qualify England for remission on sentences already passed. Charged with ineptitude and inconsistency, they remain guilty until proving themselves innocent in higher courts than this. But winning here was a start, for to lose would assuredly have brought the momentum of this tour to a dead stop with four of the five Tests still to play.

There are serious caveats to any temptation to overplay the victory. England ended the night with a lengthy injury list headed, most worryingly, by Michael Atherton, their captain. Philip Tufnell, who had bowled splendidly and with passion, ended up losing 30 per cent of his match fee (about £350) after John Reid, the referee, took exception to him throwing down the ball after a frustrating over.



Tufnell: fined by referee

The striking components of the victory were a spirited all-round display by Craig White, on the ground he regards as a second home, and a rapid surrender by the A team's batting that saw them lose their last seven wickets for 19 runs in eight overs. From apparently winning at a canter, they came ingloriously to grief, subduing a 40,000 crowd preparing to gloat over England's misfortunes.

Sadly, the pervasive yob element, scourge of the night cricket revolution, was in evidence again and the umpires discussed taking the players off the ground after England fielders complained that the abuse being hurled at them was not confined to the verbal. Golf balls, beer cans and bottles were thrown onto the playing area.

Alec Stewart, captaining England in Atherton's absence, said: "It is disappointing that it was ruined by a few mindless people. They are good supporters here, they get involved and excited, but you have to think of the players' safety. When a golf ball landed at our wicketkeeper's feet, it had gone too far."

Among the other things Stewart had not expected to come his way were the job of captain, which he inherited ten minutes prior to the toss, and the diving body of Justin Langer, which connected with the back of his knees during the crucial dismissal of the evening.

Langer, ruled run out by the third umpire after an adhesive half-century, might have believed Stewart obstructed him, but when the decision was given by the traffic lights on the scoreboard, this fluctuating game was effectively over.

Stewart's defence in the Langer incident was that his back had been turned to the onrushing batsman. Later, however, it was Atherton's back that was causing the England management more concern. His chronic condition, already acknowledged as career-shortening, had worsened sharply during fielding practice. Notwithstanding Stewart's rousing efforts as deputy, Atherton's swift recovery is essential.

England chose from only 12 fit men yesterday, and by the end of the game Stewart was nursing a bruised right knee, Phil DeFreitas a calf muscle and Graham Thorpe a strained groin. White, the man of the match, was on the treatment table, having ice applied to a side strain, so the prospects of raising a quorum for the floodlit game against Zimbabwe tomorrow were not great.

White, a resolute character, will not lightly give up his place after an evening on which he did what all genuine all-rounders must occasionally do and won his team a match. That the stage was the Melbourne ground where he was brought by his father as a boy, from the family home in Bendigo, was a bonus.

White's first duty was to rescue the England innings from mediocrity. On a two-paced pitch, they had lost Stewart and Gooch cheaply, Hick and Thorpe when evidently well set and Gatting stumped, playing the walking defensive shot of a disorientated man. At 100 for five, with 20 overs remaining, England could easily have been humbled for 140, but White, dropped on 16, batted with defiant character until Tufnell ran him out from the last ball of an innings that had raised a negotiable 188.

Angus Fraser gave the bowling a more purposeful appearance, though he dismissed the two openers with a half-volley and long hop respectively. From the other end, DeFreitas was bowling his best spell for a month and the A team were in trouble until Martyn and Langer began batting as if victory was assured.

Tufnell, crucially, teased out Martyn, but Ricky Ponting played fluently for 31 and the game began to turn only when he played on against White. From then on, it was all England, and although they could have won more easily if Steven Rhodes had not twice dropped Langer, they could also quite conceivably have been beaten.

"I think the boys will enjoy a drink tonight," Stewart said. The toast would have been to reprieve rather than triumph.

West Indies gamble, page 39
Botham on shortlist, page 39

GRAHAM MORRIS



White, the man of the match, shows his delight after capturing the important wicket of Ponting, bowled for 31

SCOREBOARD FROM MELBOURNE

England won toss

ENGLAND

G A Gooch c Emery b Hughes ..... 6 (18min, 14 balls)
*A J Stewart c Emery b Reiffel ..... 5 (43min, 27 balls)
G A Hick c Emery b Moody ..... 32 (80min, 47 balls, 4 fours)
G P Thorpe run out (Moody/Robertson) 29 (74min, 47 balls, 1 four)
M W Gatting st Emery b Robertson ... 23 (41min, 37 balls, 1 four)
C White run out (Lehmann/Emery) ... 43 (87min, 83 balls)
†S J Rhodes run out (Langer/Martyn) . 21 (49min, 44 balls)
P A J DeFreitas c Hayden b Hughes 11 (21min, 13 balls)
S D Udal run out (Robertson/Hughes) . 9 (10min, 7 balls, 1 four)
P C R Tufnell not out ..... 0 (1min, 0 balls)
Extras (lb 7, w 2) 9
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs, 208 min) 188
A R C Fraser did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9 (Stewart 2), 2-23 (Hick 11), 3-55 (Thorpe 11), 4-95 (Gatting 21), 5-97 (White 0), 6-137 (White 19), 7-170 (White 35), 8-187 (White 42), 9-188 (Tufnell 0).

BOWLING: Hughes 10-3-22-2 (5-2-8-1, 2-1-3-0, 3-0-11-1); Reiffel 10-0-45-1 (w 2; 5-0-15-1, 2-0-6-0, 3-0-24-0), Moody 10-0-33-1 (8-0-18-1, 2-0-7-0, 2-0-7-0); Angel 9-1-45-0 (7-1-31-0, 2-0-14-0); Robertson 10-0-31-1 (one spell); Martyn 1-0-5-0 (one spell).

AUSTRALIA A

D S Lehmann c Rhodes b Fraser ..... 3 (7min, 7 balls)
M L Hayden c Rhodes b Fraser ..... 12 (33min, 26 balls, 1 four)
*D R Martyn c Gooch b Tufnell ..... 40 (94min, 54 balls, 1 four)
J L Langer run out (Fraser) ..... 55 (147min, 110 balls, 1 four)
R T Ponting b White ..... 31 (54min, 42 balls, 4 fours)
T M Moody b White ..... 2 (8min, 6 balls)
†P A Emery c Rhodes b DeFreitas ..... 2 (6min, 6 balls)
G R Robertson run out (Tufnell) ..... 2 (13min, 6 balls)
P R Reiffel c Rhodes b DeFreitas ..... 1 (6min, 2 balls)
M G Hughes b White ..... 2 (14min, 10 balls)
J Angel not out ..... 3 (11min, 8 balls)
Extras (lb 2, w 1, nb 1) 4
Total (45.5 overs, 200min) 157

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7 (Hayden 4), 2-20 (Martyn 5), 3-79 (Langer 22), 4-138 (Langer 49), 5-142 (Langer 51), 6-145 (Langer 52), 7-151 (Robertson 2), 8-152 (Reiffel 1), 9-153 (Hughes 1).

BOWLING: DeFreitas 10-2-24-2 (7-2-15-0, 3-0-9-2); Fraser 9-1-31-2 (nb 1, w 1; 7-1-22-2; 2-0-9-0); White 8.5-1-35-3 (nb 1; 3-0-17-0; 5 5-1-18-3); Udal 8-0-33-0 (one spell); Tufnell 10-0-32-1 (one spell).

Umpires: A J McQuillan and S G Randell

Man of the match: C White.

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

TABLE

	P	W	L	Pts
Australia	4	4	0	8
Australia A	4	2	2	4
England	2	1	1	2
Zimbabwe	4	0	4	0

PREVIOUS RESULTS: Dec 2: Australia bt Zimbabwe by 2 wkts (Perth); Dec 4: Australia A bt Zimbabwe by 5 wkts (Perth); Dec 6: Australia bt England by 26 runs (Sydney); Dec 8: Australia bt Zimbabwe by 94 runs (Hobart); Dec 10: Australia A bt Zimbabwe by 7 wkts (Adelaide); Dec 11: Australia bt Australia A by six runs (Adelaide)).

MATCHES TO COME: Tomorrow: England v Zimbabwe (Sydney); Jan 7: England v Zimbabwe (Brisbane); Jan 8: Australia v Australia A (Brisbane); Jan 10: Australia v England (Melbourne); Jan 12: Australia A v England (Sydney); Jan 15: first final (Sydney); Jan 17: second final (Melbourne); Jan 19: third final (Melbourne).

Modahl rounds first bend in running battle to clear name

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THERE were enough television crews and photographers gathered outside the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel in London early yesterday to prompt at least one passer-by to ask whether they were there for the £18 million national lottery winner. The way Diane Modahl and her husband, Vicente, went from cab to foyer, holding hands and smiling, anyone not recognising them could have been forgiven for thinking that the passer-by might have been on the scent.

The Modahls, though, are a long way yet from a champagne celebration. If Diane, Great Britain's No 1 woman 800 metres runner, is found today to have convinced a British Athletic Federation (BAF) disciplinary hearing of her innocence with regard to a positive drugs test, she will have the more formidable challenge of persuading the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) that she did not adminster steroids. Without the world governing body's approval, she will be suspended from international competition for four years.

The hearing began yesterday, with Modahl's legal advisers presenting fresh evidence. They expressed to the hearing their concern at media coverage which did not reflect the case they were presenting. Tony Ward, the BAF spokesman, who was reporting from the hearing to waiting journalists, referred to "the written mayhem of the last ten days".

He added: "Her lawyers are saying there is much more evidence that has not appeared in the media. We did express our own concern about the previous ten days' media coverage, that we felt it could have prejudiced the hearing."

Although some 20 people were packed into the small hearing room — the panel of four men and one woman, legal representatives on both sides and expert witnesses — they did not include anyone from the laboratory in Lisbon which conducted Modahl's urine test. There has been speculation over the custody and storage of the sample but neither Professor Jorge Barbosa, who conducted the test, nor Professor Lesseps Reys, the laboratory's science director, was present.

"They had to get permission from the Portuguese Government to attend and that has not been forthcoming," Ward said. "They also told us they had been affronted by the media coverage which cast aspersions on their laboratory. The federation feels there has been some xenophobia that, because it is a foreign laboratory, it might be slightly suspect, whereas the Lisbon laboratory is an IOC [International Olympic Committee] accredited laboratory."

Vicente Modahl said last Thursday that he had made repeated requests for the chain of custody documents but these had not arrived. "I believe that the hearing would not have gone ahead with such important documentation," Ward said.

Ward added that Peter Radford, the BAF executive chairman, had confirmed that, if Modahl was cleared by the BAF hearing, she would be free to run in Britain but not outside. "As far as we are concerned she is clear to run anywhere but other bodies may take appropriate action," Ward said.

Modahl registered a positive test based on an testosterone/epitestosterone reading of 42:1. Normal is 1:1. Among those appearing before the panel were Raymond Brooks, Professor of endocrinology at the University of London, and Vivian James, the university's Professor of chemical pathology. "Both are recognised as world authorities on steroid analysis and detection," Ward said.

Ward added that it was likely the panel would discuss this morning the evidence presented yesterday and that a statement with the verdict would be read later today. The BAF would not, he added, comment beyond the statement "because of what could occur at an appeal process".

If the hearing finds in her favour, it will set alarm bells ringing at the IAAF, which defends its testing system adamantly. Britain's uneasy relationship with the IAAF was hinted at by Ward. "GB is part of the IAAF organisation," he said. "I hesitate to use the word family."

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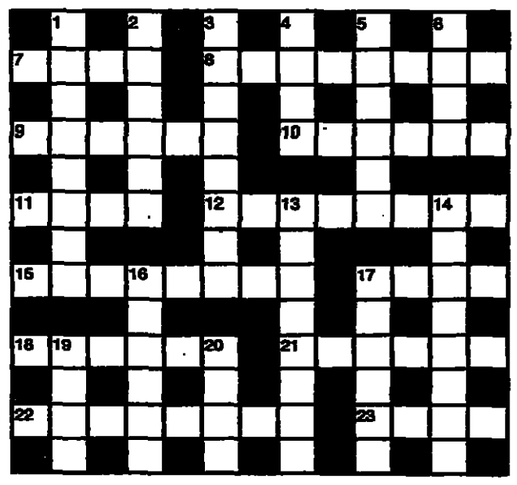
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 344

ACROSS
7 Badly off (4)
8 Indian chief (Longfellow) (8)
9 Stare with popping eyes (6)
10 Young cow (6)
11 Strong link (6)
12 Malapropish constable (*Much Ado*) (8)
15 University teacher (8)
17 As it happens (4)
18 Outlet of multiple store (6)
21 Grow bigger (6)
22 Praise (given as a round) (8)
23 Common sense (4)

DOWN
1 Unvarying pitch (of voice) (8)
2 Icy: unresponsive (6)
3 Device for tearing into fragments (8)
4 Cattle-feed mixed with water (4)
5 Small overnight case (6)
6 Item of footwear (4)
13 Tender of flowers, lawn etc. (8)
14 Extremely hungry (8)
16 Slight stinging, throbbing sensation (6)
17 Resembling a wolf (6)
19 Inferior; slightly unwell (4)
20 Transport (goods); lug (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 343

ACROSS: 1 Pompom 5 Tippet 8 Seep 9 Tincture 10 Hammer 12 Odds 15 Sick as a parrot 16 Bess 17 Suitor 19 Basilica 21 Weal 22 Sketch 23 Entity
DOWN: 2 Operative 3 Pip 4 Motorist 5 Tone 6 Potpourri 7 Ear 11 Makeshift 13 Deodorant 14 Apostate 18 Rich 20 Auk 21 Wit

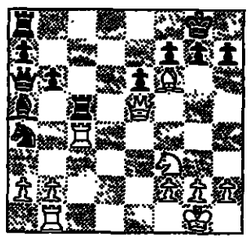
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WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Alekhine - Sterk, Budapest 1921.

Can you see how Alekhine would have cut through the complications to score a win on material?



Solution, page 39
Raymond Keene, page 5

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FASCINATOR
a. An imaginative child
b. A head shawl
c. A shooting star

GELADA
a. An Ethiopian baboon
b. A glutinous broth
c. A furious dance

RED-TOP
a. A facial spot
b. A bird
c. A pasture grass

SACKIE
a. A strong alcohol
b. An African slave
c. A small parrot

Answers on page 39

هكذا من الأصل